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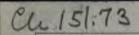
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FIFTEEN MONTHS WITH THE RED CROSS SOCIETY OF JAPAN



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In Japanese Hospitals During War-Time

A. BARBARAMA 7



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In Japanese Hospitals During War-Time

FIFTEEN MONTHS WITH THE RED CROSS SOCIETY OF JAPAN (APRIL 1904 TO JULY 1905)

BY

MRS RICHARDSON

MEMBER OF THE JAPAN SOCIETY

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

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MARCHIONESS OYAMA,

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AND THE

GIFTED WIPE OF JAPAN'S GREATEST

GENERAL.



PREFACE.

I FEEL that some apology is due to the readers of this little volume, seeing that so many abler pens than mine have written about Japan. It was only owing to the request of Baron Ozawa that my half-formed intention took practical shape, and that I ventured to write my experiences amongst a people who have won my deepest regard and admiration. He expressed himself as follows: "You have been welcomed, not only as a helper, but also as a friend, and have had a far greater insight of our hospitals than any other foreign lady. Will you

still continue your help, when you return to England, and let our methods be publicly known in other European countries as well as your own, and also tell of the care that has been bestowed upon our wounded and our prisoners?" It was almost impossible for me to refuse, not only because Baron Ozawa, as one of its vice-presidents, represented the wishes of the Red Cross Society, but also because I felt under a deep obligation to him, as he had personally considered my welfare and provided for my comfort in every possible way during my stay in the country.

Perhaps it may be thought that my simple narrative is too deeply tinged couleur de rose; but it is not my province to discuss national faults (and no nation can be entirely free from faults), and I only wish to relate my personal experiences amongst the kind and gentle people

who little by little honoured me with their confidence and their affection,

The Red Cross Society of Japan is apparently unbounded in its sphere of usefulness, for in future it will not confine itself to that country alone, but like Kwannon, the goddess of Mercy, will stretch out beneficent hands and bring untold blessings to the shores of Korea and Manchuria. The scheme of organisation which is now being considered will, it is hoped, spread into China as well, and may be the commencement of an era of higher civilisation in all these countries. China is awaking out of her sleep of centuries, like a huge Rip van Winkle, and through the mist of ages is beginning to gain a glimpse of the great possibilities lying in her path. Before the advance of education, old superstitions and theories will sink more and more into oblivion; and if a long era

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of peace should succeed Japan's victorious campaign, other Eastern nations will look to her as their pioneer and leader.

My task is nearly finished, and Western breezes seem to waft soft murmurs of "Sayonara" across the distant ocean, that divides me from the friends I love in the Land of the Rising Sun.

I am much indebted to Viscount Hayashi for having read the manuscript before publication, and also for the kind help of the Archdeacon of North Wilts and Colonel Gwynne Hughes.

TERESA EDEN RICHARDSON.

November 1905.

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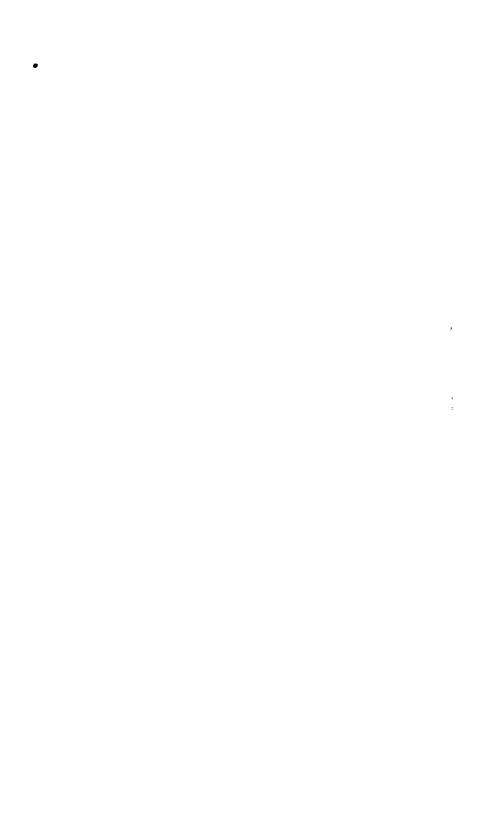


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A WOUNDED OFFICER WITH HIS WIFE AND NURSE.

VEREFULL VEREFUL VEREFUL

IN JAPANESE HOSPITALS DURING WAR-TIME.

ON THE EVE OF WAR.

For many years Japan was surrounded by a halo of mystery and romance. Travellers returned home with tales of curious customs, of charming little ladies, of wonderful gardens and flowers, of scenery unequalled in miniature beauty. Some had visited the Plains of Ikao when they were brilliant with goldenrayed lilies, or stayed in villages nestling round the foot of Mount Fuji with its sacred associations and wondrous beauty, and enjoyed sunlit days and cool evenings in the numerous lovely summer resorts. Others wandered in early spring down groves of cherry-trees in full blossom, where all the world was a-pleasuring, whole families strolling about in blissful content or sitting in picturesque groups in front of little tea-houses. The general public who read about Japan pictured to itself a land of gaiety and laughter, but rarely got in touch with the inner life of these fascinating people, or realised the depth and strength of their character.

By degrees the reserve which had enshrouded them for years gave way before Western influences, and the impression spread that, after all, there was a great deal in the background that had not been revealed to passing strangers. Attention was drawn to Japanese students who came to England in order to attend a university course at Oxford

or Cambridge, or at the medical schools. It was noticed that they were steady and indefatigable workers. A deep purpose underlay their quiet demeanour: they were watching and learning in order to bring back a fund of useful knowledge to their own country.

Since the beginning of the Meiji era, a wave of enterprise and desire for advancement has passed over all classes, while at the same time military zeal and devotion to the Emperor has in no way abated. The spirit that dominates the Army was not put to a severe test until the Chinese War, and, again, at the fall of Peking, when Englishmen wrote in glowing terms of the splendid dash and courage of Japanese troops. It was, however, only during the war with Russia that Western nations realised in all its fulness the power which had been lying dormant for many years in

the heart of Japan,—a power which will make itself felt in the future development of the country, and enable her, as years pass on, to take a leading place amongst Eastern nations as the exponent of advancement and education.

Without doubt, one of the chief reasons which led to her series of unbroken successes in that war was the minute attention paid to details, even the smallest and apparently most insignificant receiving careful thought. It was a revelation to the world to find that Japan had long been preparing for the great struggle, without ostentation or publicity, and that her far-seeing diplomatists were thoroughly prepared when the cry "To arms!" resounded through the country.

The Red Cross Society, with its splendid organisation, was no less ready for any emergency. After years of quiet and steady progress, its methods were almost perfect. Japan had studied them in the best foreign medical schools, and had skilfully adapted them to her own requirements.

The efficiency of the Society's arrangements was evident as soon as the great press of work began in the summer of 1904. There was no confusion, no lack of help, no leakage in the transmission of food, medicines, and surgical necessaries to the front, each department being supervised by experienced and careful men. A plentiful supply of nurses was in readiness, and in case of need reservists could be called upon for service, all of them being ready to sacrifice their home comforts without any complaint in the great crisis which was approaching. With two exceptions, no offers of assistance from other countries were accepted. Dr M'Gee came out with a party of nine professional nurses, and remained for six months, leaving Japan in October 1904. The German Red Cross Society, early in 1905, sent out an ambulance under the charge of two surgeons and one nursing sister, providing all the expenses, including portable buildings for a certain number of patients. Mr Mosle (Belgian Consul) assigned rooms in his house for the accommodation of the staff, in addition to which he received a small number of wounded officers; and a large temporary hospital for privates was also erected in his grounds by the Japanese authorities.

It may be asked how it came about that, although I was a stranger to Japan, my services were accepted during the whole of the war, from April 1904 until July 1905. The explanation is that, although not a professional nurse, I had received a medal for services during the war in South Africa, and I came to Japan

for the purpose of giving help where it was most needed, not in any way wishing to take the lead among nurses far more experienced than myself. Arrangements for my admission to the Red Cross Society were made in London by Viscount Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, and I undertook to be entirely responsible for my own expenses. (The maintenance of one foreign nurse costs about as much as that of four to six Japanese, owing to the necessary difference in food and accommodation.) I am also able to speak French and German, the latter being almost indispensable, as a large number of the Japanese surgeons had either studied in Germany, or learnt the language in order to read medical books written in it.

I considered it a great privilege when the Japanese warmly accepted my offer of help, for I had the greatest admira8

tion for the plucky little nation which was engaged in a war against an adversary so powerful as Russia, with her masses of troops, and enormous tracts of country from which to draw reserves.

TOKYO IN WAR-TIME.

At first sight Tokyo is a little disappointing. There are extensive public gardens and large open spaces, but the city consists to a great extent of innumerable narrow streets, with Japanese houses of two stories. Improvements, however, are being rapidly carried out, and already many wide thoroughfares have been made and planted with trees, which in a few years will form shady avenues. Government offices, banks, and other public buildings are now being chiefly built in brick and stone; but if a severe earthquake, like that of

1894, should again devastate the city, the loss of life would probably be far greater in them than in the little wooden houses with their sliding paper walls. Princes and nobles often have two residences, one being built and furnished in stiff European style, and the other, chiefly used in summer, on the Japanese model.

The extension of electric trams is being pushed forward in all directions, so that before long they will have reached the more distant parts of the town. Horses and carriages are very little used, except by the leading Japanese and the foreign legations, and the usual mode of conveyance is a jinrickisha (kuruma), which has the appearance of a large perambulator with a man in the shafts. Some of the runners can almost keep up with a horse: they are stoutly-built men, and

many of them have proved very useful for service at the front.

When I arrived in Tokyo, in the April of 1904, there was no sign of dreamy Oriental life amongst the people who thronged the streets. All appeared to be occupied, and intent on some pursuit. Even the children were busy, the elder ones helping in the shops after school hours, or walking about with a baby strapped on their backs, while the little ones were playing together or making mud-pies in the open gutters.

Japan is a paradise for children, since, even in the upper classes, the mother devotes her life to them, and undertakes all their home training herself. In addition, she supervises and takes part in all the household duties, and, last but not least, is the obedient wife of her lord and master. She instils into her boys from

earliest childhood the code of Bushido, or knightly valour, which inculcates—

Justice.

Courage.

Honour.

Pity.

Courtesy.

Self-control.

She also teaches them to regard the Emperor with the greatest reverence, and never to disgrace the memories of their ancestors.

Her girls, again, are taught to be gentle and unselfish, to hide their childish troubles for fear of giving pain to others, and to consider the feelings and wishes of their elders. They have little or no self-consciousness, and the girls' code of honour may be summed up in the following words: "The essence of life, and the essence of love, is thoughtful consideration for others."

A prejudice is arising amongst some of the Japanese against the practice of strapping babies on their mothers' backs; but I am inclined to think that, to a great extent, this custom may account for the good temper of the people, since Japanese babies are always kept amused and happy, and it is well known that the principles of a child's future life are instilled into it during the earliest years. A working mother has no anxiety about the safety of her baby, for in winter it is kept warm and cosy within her wadded kimono, and peeps over her shoulder with its bright beady eyes, apparently taking in all the mysteries of household duties. When it gets tired, it falls to sleep on its mother's back, the funny little head bobbing about from side to side, and often hanging down in what would seem to us a most uncomfortable fashion. I once saw a boy on stilts with a baby, the latter apparently delighted at being so far skywards, and not realising that its descent to the ground might be a very rapid and ignominious one. When they get older, little children toddle about in long sleeves, nearly reaching to the bottom of their kimonos, which are made of gay-coloured crepe or silk. They seldom hear a rough word; and as they are brought up under the mother's watchful eye, they are never punished unless it is absolutely necessary.

So far, a mercantile spirit does not seem to have taken hold of the nation, and although, no doubt, there will be a great expansion of it in the future, some time must elapse before it permeates the higher classes of society. In some ways it will be advantageous when it does, for then these classes would help Japan to gain the credit of a high

standard of morality in business dealings. At present, however, higher education and military training are by far the most engrossing subjects for the Japanese. It is unusual to find any one who cannot read or write, and there is a general desire to learn European languages, more especially English, students often attending evening classes for this purpose after school and college hours.

The streets are full of interest to a stranger, especially in the late afternoons. Dainty little ladies may be seen reclining in their cushioned kurumas; girl students, strolling home in groups, dressed in the conventional maroon-and-plum coloured skirts; while sometimes a glimpse may be caught of one of the princesses in a dark-green carriage, the sixteen-petalled chrysanthemum crest denoting her royal rank. No one appears to be over-hurried, and courtesy is never

forgotten. Coolies dripping with their exertions will whip out their fans and little pipes (which strike a stranger as being so ridiculously small), bow to a passing acquaintance, and then, after a short rest, return contentedly to pull or shoulder a heavy handcart up the steep hills.

Beggars are rarely seen, for Tokyo is not a city of loafers. Real distress has often to be searched out, and soldiers' wives are generally too proud to ask for help, or to let their troubles be publicly known. Many relief societies have been formed since the commencement of the war, two of the principal ones being the Ladies' Patriotic and the Imperial Relief Societies, both of which have appointed ladies to take charge of certain districts, and to report needy cases of widows and orphans, and families of soldiers at the front.

I noticed no anxiety in the demeanour of the people, except in the rush for special leaflets, which were issued during the day when important news arrived from the front. Then hands would be eagerly stretched out to the messengers, who started at a run from the newspaper offices in all directions, shaking little bunches of bells suspended from their belts, and distributing the leaflets at a sen 1 or two apiece.

It was, indeed, difficult for me to believe that a war, on which the life of the nation depended, was in progress. Everything seemed to be going on in its regular routine, and there were no noisy demonstrations in honour of the departing troops, who often left in the early morning hours, not knowing their destination, thousands vanishing in one night like a great phantom army. Their

¹ Three sen are equivalent to one penny.

of thirty doctors and about two hundred nurses. Baron Hashimoto, the wellknown and skilful head surgeon, attending three times a-week, and being always present on Wednesdays at operations. Nurses are admitted between the ages of eighteen and thirty, at a commencing salary of 8 to 10 yen per month. They have to remain three years, beginning as students and passing out as graduates, after which they may, if they wish, return to their homes and take private cases. But for fifteen years they can be called upon for special service in time of war (even married women not being exempt), when they receive the following salaries:-

Per month.

Head nurses, 28 to 30 yen.¹ 1st class graduates, 20 yen.
2nd class graduates, 18 yen.

¹ A yen is equivalent to 2s.

In addition to this, each nurse has an allowance of 15 to 18 yen a-month for food, and is provided with a uniform, which includes a heavy winter cloak with a hood, particularly serviceable on board hospital ships. Head nurses wear the distinguishing mark of two stars on their collars, and graduates one, Miss Sato alone being entitled to wear three, in order to mark her position as head superintendent.

At the beginning of the war the whole system at the main hospital of Shibuya in Tokyo was gradually changed, and wards formerly occupied by paying patients were reserved for officers, those of highest rank having a small room to themselves, or sharing it with one companion. Subalterns occupied larger ones containing six to eight beds; but as the numbers increased, they were obliged to be placed in the long temporary wards

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with twenty or more companions. As the hospital is situated on a hill, fresh air blows in at the open doors and windows and down the long corridors, except during the intense heat of July and August, when the breeze dies away, often leaving the thermometer standing at 95° F. But shady seats can always be found under the trees in the spacious and carefully cultivated grounds.

The arrangements in the temporary buildings for privates had been carefully planned. Each ward, containing twenty-five patients, had its lavatory and bathroom, and the latter was constantly in use, for the Japanese have a passion for bathing which they often indulge two or three times a-day, preferably at a temperature of about 110° F. The buildings were lighted by electricity, and warmed by modern stoves or by hibachis (open charcoal boxes) from two to three

feet square. The kitchens at first sight appeared rather small, but they were only needed for the patients' food, as the nurses brought their own ready cooked. All heavy washing was done outside the walls; inside them, only small laundries for washing bandages and other dressings were provided.

The privates had small wooden bedsteads with mattress, blankets, sheets, and makura (a hard little pillow, shaped something like a bolster, which supports the neck). Two heavily wadded quilts with white covers kept out the cold in winter. They had calico kimonos and caps in summer, and an extra one, quilted, and white flannel caps, in winter. Each man had a shelf at the head of his bed to hold his little possessions, which always included a fan, toothbrush, tooth-powder, chopsticks, and one or two very small cotton towels about the size of a dinner napkin, stamped with comic or warlike scenes. A movable board at the foot of each bed could be taken out and used for meals or games. Sometimes, till a supply of beds could be obtained, it was necessary to lay mattresses on the floor, but this was no hardship to Japanese, as it is their usual mode of sleeping. There were usually in each ward one or more sergeants responsible for the good behaviour of the men.

Meals were served three times a-day on metal plates—rice, which takes the place of bread, being given out in wooden boxes. They were as follows:—

Breakfast, 6 A.M.: Bean soup, fried fish, eggs dressed in various ways, rice, and Japanese tea. (This tea is specially prepared, and the water must be lukewarm. It is allowed to stand one minute only before it is poured off, and no milk or sugar is taken with it.)

Dinner, 11.30 A.M.: Fish-soup, slices of raw fish, a little meat or cooked fish, stewed vegetables (such as lotus root, egg-plant, ginger, sea-weed, &c.), pickles, sweetmeats, cakes, rice, and sometimes a little wine; a pickled plum was occasionally given and much liked.

Supper, 5 P.M.: Much the same as dinner.

Later in the evening, when necessary, light refreshments, such as milk and biscuits, were given. Milk also was taken round at 10 and 2.30 in patent stoppered bottles, in addition to which the patients often had little relishes of their own. It is no wonder that, when they were convalescent, they soon got fat and jolly.

The men swallowed their food in an incredibly short time, the average being six minutes for a full meal. Once when I was feeding a helpless patient I tried to do so more slowly, but he did not

appreciate any delay, and his mouth was usually wide open before the next spoonful was ready.

The pay of the soldiers being small, they greatly appreciated gifts of cigarettes, sweets, &c. Reservists received double pay, but 3d. a-day left them nothing to return to their families. The Government gave some help—about 6s. a-month to a wife; but this had to be supplemented from other Societies, and a great many women were in needy circumstances.

twenty served three years in the Army, after which period they were reservists and could be called upon for service in time of war.

By the autumn of 1904 sufficient buildings had been erected to accommodate over 3000 patients. In June a partially finished one collapsed owing to an earthquake, and nine injured workmen were brought into the wards, some with broken ribs and legs. Earthquakes are of such common occurrence in Japan that they are hardly noticed unless some damage is done, and it is quite a usual thing to be awakened in the night by the bed rocking from side to side, which sometimes causes a slight feeling of giddiness, like being at sea.

Boarding-houses for doctors and nurses, each marked with a Red Cross, were provided in towns where temporary military hospitals have been erected. The rules were strictly observed, and no nurse was allowed out after 9 P.M. without special leave. During the war 3000 to 4000 nurses were employed, but none of them left the country except those engaged on the hospital ships which conveyed patients from Dalny to Japanese ports.

On April 15, 1904, almost immediately after my arrival, diplomas were conferred on those nurses who had passed their examinations. Many members of the

mony we sat down to a Japanese tiffin, which consisted of numerous little dishes served on trays. Amongst other dainties were fish-soup, raw fish, chopped eggs, pounded chrysanthemum blooms, savoury chestnuts, rose-coloured ginger, cakes, weak green tea, and rice. The ladies were much amused at my vain attempts to manage chopsticks, and kindly provided me with a spoon. Afterwards we strolled about till 3 P.M., when some 150 more arrived for an ambulance lecture. All (including the princesses) were dressed in the same outdoor uniform-black alpaca dresses trimmed with blue braid, and straw bonnets with blue, black, and white ribbons.

Thousands of bandages were rolled by these willing helpers at Shibuya Hospital, where princesses, nobles, Japanese and foreign ladies, attended on stated afternoons. When the demand for bandages became very pressing, the Japanese ladies often began early in the morning and worked for eight hours. In less than two months 30,000 bandages were despatched to the front, after being sterilised and examined, no imperfect or loosely rolled one being allowed to pass. A great number was needed, for 15,000 were lost when the Hitachi Maru foundered.

Nothing appeared to be left to chance. At one time, when cholera belts were needed, workers at home were supplied with written directions of the sizes and of the amount of wool to be used in each. While at work in the hospital all the ladies wore white overalls, entirely covering their dresses, and high caps like the nurses. They washed and disinfected their hands before passing into the workroom, where everyone was busy and where the click of

the bandage-rolling machine never ceased. Here they sat patiently at their monotonous task through the hot summer months, with the thermometer often registering 95° F.—Marchioness Nabeshima, the indefatigable President, taking her full share of the work.

This Volunteer Nursing Association is attached to the Red Cross Society, and is under its supervision and protection. Meetings are usually held at headquarters once or twice a-month, when lecturers instruct members in bandaging, nursing, and rendering first aid. Diplomas are, with their approval and the consent of the President, conferred on members who have taken lessons for two years; but those who have made marked progress in their studies may obtain one before the expiration of the specified time. As soon as the war began, members were

requested to attend lectures every Friday, and each lady was asked what time and help she was prepared to give on other days of the week. Many hoped to be permitted to help the nurses in the wards, but during 1904 all hands were needed in the workrooms. There was no complaint: they were content to wait till they could be spared from the more tedious work of rolling bandages and packing them for despatch to the front.

In the evenings, correspondents of the leading newspapers frequently called upon me for information, but as I did not wish for publicity I begged them to withhold my name as far as possible. They were most considerate in acceding to my wishes, and for many months I was able to remain in privacy. This reminds me of rather an amusing incident which occurred to me when I was

crossing America in August 1905, on my return to England. Just as the train was starting, a reporter requested an interview, and these were amongst the questions he asked: "Do you think Japan wishes for peace and intends pressing for it?" Reply: "I am sorry I do not know, as the diplomatists have not confided their intentions to me." After a little discussion about the merits of the Japanese army: "Do you think Japanese soldiers superior to English ones?" Reply: "That is impossible, as England has the finest soldiers and sailors in the world, and no nation can surpass them, but the Anglo-Japanese Alliance is a very strong one." The train was just moving, so he had only time for one more question: "Where do the Americans come in?" and while smiling good-bye, I replied, "If America

three nations could conquer the world." I thought to myself, "What a lot of funny questions," and probably as he left the station he said to himself, "I never received so many silly answers before." Our interview did not appear in the newspaper.

On May 8 there was a Lantern Procession to celebrate the Japanese victories. As it grew dark it was a pretty sight to see the people flocking to Hibuya Park in all directions, and the large square in the centre looked like a sea of waving light. It was computed that there were not less than 150,000 lanterns, of all shapes and sizes, the majority being like red balloons.

EARLY IMPRESSIONS IN THE WARDS.

At first it seemed strange to be helping in a hospital where the language and customs were so different from our own. I felt very doubtful as to whether a foreigner would be welcome with the patients, and had made up my mind to return to England in the autumn if the difficulties proved too great. Fortunately, my first work was amongst officers arrived from the battle of Nanshan, most of whom were able to speak one European language. were well-knit, muscular men, averaging 5 feet in height. Their intense

patriotism and disregard of life at the call of duty were as emphatic as they were remarkable. "We shall fight to our last penny and our last man." "What does it matter?—a man can only die once; it is better to fall in battle." These were some of the brave words I heard among men who are still inspired by the old Samurai spirit, according to the saying, "His sword is the living soul of the Samurai."

I was told of a naval officer who had been saved off a wreck, his ship having struck a floating mine. He was badly wounded, and taken to the naval hospital at Sasebo. It was a great pleasure to him to see his mother, who had come from a long distance. Soon afterwards his sword, which had been recovered from the wreck, was restored to him, and he was so overjoyed at receiving it that his comrades chaffed him, saying

that he loved his sword better than his mother.

The spirit of Bushido seems to have permeated all classes of society. Their greatest ambition is to lead lives sans peur et sans reproche, and to gain fame by knightly deeds of valour, not for self-glorification, but because they would deem it a shame to bring disgrace on their families, or to grieve the spirits of their ancestors.

When Captain Yashiro, of the Japanese battleship Asama, bade good-bye to the men who had volunteered to take the blocking steamers to the entrance of Port Arthur, he gave them to drink from a large silver loving-cup filled with cold water (the symbol of last parting), and said to them: "In sending you on the duty of blocking the harbour entrance of Port Arthur—a duty which affords you only one chance out of thousands to re-

turn alive—I feel as if I were sending my beloved sons. But if I had a hundred sons. I would send them all on such a bold adventure as this; and had I only one son, I should wish to do the same with him. In performing your duty, if you happen to lose both hands, work with both feet; if you lose both feet, work with your head; and faithfully carry out the orders of your commander. I send you to the place of death, and I have no doubt that you are ready to die; but I do not mean to advise you to despise your life or to run needless risks in trying to make a great name. What I ask of you all is, to do your duty regardless of your life. The cup of water that I now offer you is not meant to give you courage. It is only to make you representatives of the honour of the Asama. Submit your life to the will of Heaven, and calmly perform your duty."

Words like these recall to our mind the splendid traditions of the old Roman heroes, and should be handed down to children of other nations, as well as those of Japan, to stir them up to noble desires and noble deeds.

To some extent harakari, or disembowelment, is an outcome of Bushido. and has been practised in Japan since the middle ages. Even in this war many of the soldiers killed themselves rather than surrender to the enemy. This partly accounts for the comparatively small number of prisoners falling into the hands of the Russians. The intense desire of the Japanese to render some service to their country and to win an honourable name in the field is shown by the following incident. Two brothers returned home after having fought side by side during the Boxer war. The younger had greatly distinguished

himself, but the other having had no opportunity of doing so, was bitterly disappointed in consequence. When the present war began they were fighting in the same regiment, and after a sharp engagement the younger heard that his brother had been severely wounded. found him in the field hospital, life slowly ebbing away, but his poor face brightened when he saw his brother, and turning to him he said, "I am dying before I have had any chance of doing good service to my country. Take my sword and use it instead of your own, remembering that you are fighting for us both." The young officer promised to do so, and bidding his brother a last farewell, returned to his regiment. In one of the assaults at Port Arthur he fell mortally wounded, and his last words were, "I have saved my brother's honour as well as my own."

One reason why Japanese officers are so much beloved by their men is that they share their hardships and treat them as comrades in the field. I heard of a case where a wounded lieutenant was surrounded by his men who, when all their ammunition was expended, forcibly sheltered him with their own bodies, many losing their lives in order to save his.

The absence of luxuries amongst the officers is very marked. I rarely saw the silver cigarette cases, match-boxes, gold watches, and many other pretty knick-knacks so much in vogue at the present day. Their dress in the hospitals was the same as the privates', save for the distinguishing mark on their kimonos of two black lines under the red cross. Their meals also were similar, though more daintily served, and occasionally an omelette, eggs, and meat were added

to the ordinary food. Their chief delight seemed to be in flowers, collections of post-cards, photographs, bowls of goldfish, and occasionally caged birds. I found that I had to be very reticent in my admiration of any of their belongings, for had I expressed it they would have been presented to me at once.

It was owing to a rather ludicrous mistake that I got on friendly terms with the officers. Five of them were sitting in the long corridor, diligently learning English, when I thought they might like some tea. I went to the little kitchen, and finding one of their miniature teapots containing a brown liquid, I emptied it out, and putting in some more tea and fresh water, brought it to them, arranged with cups on a lacquer tray. The officers tasted the liquid, and after examining the teapot, which certainly had a peculiar smell,

they began to smile, and one of them said with a deep bow, "This is the soy teapot." (Soy is a strong-tasting sauce used at all their meals.) Then I began to laugh, and told them that sauce in England is kept in bottles and not in teapots, and that the fault was as much theirs as mine. The joke spread, and nurses and patients popped out from the adjoining wards, joining in peals of laughter. This little incident put us all on the best of terms, and I was daily accosted with the question, "Are you going to give us some more sauce-tea?"

Thus I began my work under happy auspices, and nothing could have been kinder than the way in which the cheery little nurses helped and explained everything, as far as possible, by signs.

On May 23 the Empress, with a small suite, visited the hospital. As she may not be looked down upon, all the win-

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dows were closed and blinds drawn as she drove up to the entrance. I had the honour of being presented to her privately in a small room. She spoke in whispers to her lady-in-waiting, who in turn interpreted to me in English. She thanked me for coming to help in the hospitals, and held out her hand before I had finished my second curtsey.

Her Majesty has a sweet expression and the long oval face so much admired by Japanese, and although she is small and rather delicate-looking, has a great deal of dignity. She always wears foreign dress, and takes a great interest in the education and culture of women, as well as in arts and sciences; and her own poems, especially those alluding to the war, show the tenderness and sympathy of a truly womanly heart. Hundreds of bandages rolled by her own hands were specially marked and forwarded to the

front. At first they were used for officers only, but later, by command of the Emperor, they were distributed also to privates, many of whom shed tears when they received those tokens of thoughtfulness from the Imperial house. At the beginning of the war the Emperor and Empress, with a fine sense of the duty of self-denial, commanded that the number of dishes at their tables should be reduced, and the money thus saved devoted to the use of the soldiers.

The Emperor, as well as the Empress, has written verses on the war, and these Imperial songs have been translated by Mr A. Lloyd, through whose courtesy

The Japanese are naturally a poetical people, and at times of great emotion express their feelings in verse. The correct length of a poem is thirty-one syllables, and those composed in Court circles never exceed this limit. On New Year's Day a subject is given to the public, and thousands of poems are sent in for competition, the Emperor and Empress invariably composing one themselves.

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I am permitted to give the following examples:—

THE EMPEROR.

"They're at the front
Our brave young men, and now the middle aged
Are shouldering their arms, and in the fields
Old men are gathering the abundant rice,
Low bending o'er the sheaves. All ages vie
In cheerful self-devotion to the land."

"Importunate mosquitoes, light of wing,
With trivial song and sting disturb my rest
This sleepless night. On what dark lonesome field,
'Midst what great hardships, lie my soldiers brave?
The foe that strikes thee, for thy country's sake,
Strike him with all thy might. But while thou strik'st
Forget not still to love him."

THE EMPRESS.

To Baron Takasaki (Court Poet) on the death of his son, Motohilro, before Port Arthur.

"We mourn for him, the son, who lost his life For his dear country on the battle-field; Yet 'tis the father's heart that grieves us most.

Take thou his son, he's full of life and hope, And use him as thy trusty bamboo staff, For serviceable aid in all thy work." There was no great rush of work during the months of June and July, although the number of patients kept steadily increasing; so I had an opportunity of gaining a good insight into the various methods of the hospital. I asked Baron Hashimoto how he accounted for the extraordinarily rapid healing of serious wounds, and his answer was—"Cleanliness." He and Baron Takaki have for years been studying the origin of germs and bacilli, and as all the doctors are fully aware that these are the deadliest foes, both in the field and in hospitals, they take every precaution against them.

There is a prevalent idea that the Japanese do not suffer pain to the same extent as Western people. Possibly this belief is due to their undoubtedly strong nerves. They appear to be much less afflicted with headaches and prostration. Women seldom give way to hysteria, having been taught to control their feel-

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ings and to cause as little trouble as possible to others, and their calm demeanour and gentle voices often seemed to have a soothing effect on the patients. On two occasions I have seen men in a dead faint, after undergoing the painful process of extension of limbs, and noticed the entire absence of fuss, the nurses bending over them with bright smiles when they were regaining consciousness.

The operating theatres and rooms for surgical dressings were thoroughly upto-date, and were flooded two or three times a-day with a solution of bi-chloride. Surgical instruments were usually kept in square glass cases with glass shelves. I never saw rubber gloves used by the surgeons, who probably found that delicate operations were better performed without them, besides which they are liable to be slippery in tying ligatures. Masks and cotton gloves were rarely worn,

and as the latter soon get saturated during an operation, they do not seem to be of much use. Before touching a patient or beginning work, both surgeons and nurses washed their hands thoroughly for some minutes in soap and water, afterwards dipping them into a disinfectant. Nurses invariably used forceps in handing dressings, &c., to the surgeons, nothing being touched by hand. If a dressing dropped it was at once thrown aside into a tin box; or if an instrument, put back into the sterilising case, this being also done each time after use. Surgeons called for what they required, and the nurses had to be very quick in waiting upon them. The latter did all the bandaging, after dressings and wadding had been placed in position, saw to the comfort of the patients in every way, and wheeled or helped to carry them in and out of the operating theatre. At a busy time, when the stretchers were in constant request, the little nurses would often carry a helpless patient on their backs, like a big baby.

I should like to mention the exceeding gentleness and kindness of the doctors, who never seemed in a hurry, and even when quite tired out were bright and cheerful. The same was the case with the nurses, who were often on duty for twenty-four consecutive hours (then twenty hours free). Soldiers much preferred being in wards with nurses, instead of in those where orderlies only were employed. They seemed to like watching the little women flitting about in their white dresses and quaint old-world caps, which suit them so well. As to the patients, their fortitude in suffering was only equalled by their gallantry in the field. I have seen a private during one of the earliest dressings after amputation, his face distorted with pain and his hands clenched to keep back a groan, turn to the nurse by his side with a smile and arigato ("Thank you") when all was over.

Superficial observers have sometimes declared that underneath the charming courtesy of the Japanese there is a lack of deep feeling, but those who have known them intimately can testify that this is not the case. A young soldier was found searching the trenches after a battle, and on being asked what he was looking for, replied: "I have been told that both my brothers are dead. I have found one, and have cut off a piece of his hair, and now I am looking for the other, in order to bring these mementoes back to mother."

THE SUMMER OF 1904.

The heat became very trying during the summer rains of June, and, owing to the damp, clothing had to be kept in tin-lined boxes, to preserve it from mildew. I moved on June 14 to a charming little house belonging to a friend, situated near the hospital, and thus avoided the long kuruma rides to and from the Imperial Hotel. But it seemed a shame to complain, when we heard of soldiers fighting in Manchuria under a temperature of 120°. One of the foreign attachés told me they all had fans in their pockets, and that, when there was a respite in a battle, thousands might be seen flutter-

ing in the distance like swarms of white butterflies.

The Red Cross officials were much concerned about my health and comfort during the great heat, and all the time I was in Japan I felt that I was shadowed by the care of the Society, even when regular work prevented my seeing my kind friends as often as I could wish. They were constantly sending me little notes of inquiry, sweetmeats, and flowers. When the rain ceased, a dry burning heat set in, bringing to life thousands of mosquitoes, which quite put a stop to sitting out of doors during the lovely summer evenings. Their bites are most venomous, and they seem to have a partiality for foreigners. The butterflies and moths are gorgeous, one variety of the latter being jet-black, and almost as large as a wren; and the trees were full of large insects called seme (cicala), something between a grasshopper and a beetle, which kept up a continual chirp. The Japanese often catch them and keep them in tiny bamboo cages in their own homes.

By July 20 all the foreigners had left Tokyo for mountain and seaside resorts, and for a short time I was alone, my kind hostess allowing me to remain in her house after her departure. The ladies of the Nursing Association at Kumamoto sent me some gifts, with a kind letter of inquiry written in Japanese, which when unfolded was three yards in length.

On August 13, feeling a little tired from the heat, and being the last European lady in Tokyo, I left for Nikko, but did so rather unwillingly, as the hospital was rapidly filling with patients. It was my first outing into the country, and Nikko struck me as one of the most beautiful places I had ever seen. A

Japanese proverb says, "Until you have seen Nikko, do not say kekko (splendid)." Kannaya Hotel is situated on a hill overlooking large woods and a rushing river. Here the glories of nature and art are combined, for the gorgeous Shinto and Buddhist temples are unrivalled. They are filled with treasures,-carvings in metal and wood, gold figures, embroidered vestments, and grotesque images of lions, dogs, monkeys, birds, dragons, and other emblematic monsters. Here are the famous monkeys, so cleverly carved, at Iyeysu's Temple, representing India, China, and Japan. They symbolise Oriental reserve: "No can hear, no can talk, no can see;" for it is well known that the reticence of the Japanese is absolutely impenetrable, and that, if they have a secret to keep, they know nothing, putting on a face of blank inscrutability.

Shinto is the original and most ancient religion of Japan; and although for a time (during the Shogun period) it was a good deal mixed up with Buddhism, it is now quite distinct, and has reverted to its own simplicity of worship, the temples being almost severe in their lack of ornament. It is a vague shadowy belief, the essence of which is loyalty to the Emperor, ceremonial purity, and veneration of ancestors. Each temple has a looking-glass, which is supposed to reflect the soul of him who gazes into it, and will become clouded if it is impure. The names of the departed are written on tablets, which are kept for many years and then stored away, and a plain wooden box with bars is placed by the doorway to receive offerings in money.

Death is considered unclean, and after doing his work an undertaker is sprinkled first with water and afterwards with salt. All worshippers, before entering a temple, wash their hands and rinse out their mouths, at large stone troughs found at the entrance.

There is an interesting custom that I wish to refer to which is described by Mr Stead in his book on 'Japan and the Japanese.'

"On the 14th of July," he says, "visits to the family graves and offerings of flowers and lanterns are made, and shelves are erected in the house called shoryo-dana, or 'the shelf for the spirits,' which are decorated with various kinds of vegetables and large lanterns called kirikodoro. In the evening of the 13th the mukai-bi, or 'reception fire,' is kindled before the door of the house or in the garden; and on the evening of the 16th oquri-bi, or the 'farewell fire,' is lighted to guide the

spirits home. During these four days they are supposed to come and stay in the house. Priests are invited to recite prayers, and many offerings of rice, water, fruits, cakes, and vegetables are made on the spirit-shelf, the most curious among the offerings being oxen made of egg-plants, and horses fashioned from white melons, the legs being represented by hemp-stalks.

"When a young student goes to Europe to pursue his studies, when a soldier sets out on a campaign, when an official is sent abroad on some Government service, or when a merchant under takes a long journey on business, he invariably visits the graves of his ancestors in order to take leave of them. When they live in places distant from their ancestral graves, they very often make long journeys in order to visit the tombs and make sacrifices to them.

In fact, the worship of the spirits of ancestors forms a part of the everyday religion of the people."

The belief in charms is strong and widespread. Many of the soldiers wore little paper prayers in bags round their necks. During the war there was an extraordinary run on senninmunbi. These were pieces of white calico, about three yards long, marked with 1000 black spots, on each side of which a stitch had to be run through and the ends tied by different persons, if possible by unmarried women. If the ends were too long, they might not be cut, but had to be broken off or bitten short. The colour of the thread might not be red, for red is the colour of blood, and white or green was chiefly used, The whole had to be finished in three days or the charm had no efficacy, and if not completed in that time it might not be thrown aside, but had to be carefully unpicked and restarted. These calico strips were bound round the body, and there was a certain regiment in which almost every man possessed one. It was said that no bullet would touch him who was wearing this piece of calico. In some places, when troops were on the eve of starting, women stood about the streets imploring passersby to put a stitch, and they often took senninmunbi to girls' schools, as well as to private houses, for the same purpose.

The worship of the Buddhists is much more ornate than that of the Shintoists, many of their temples being magnificent. There are numerous sects, one being Shinshu, the followers of which believe in salvation by faith in the merits of the all-merciful Buddha. The formula Nanu Amida Butan ("O the Adorable Buddha") is supposed, if con-

stantly said, to ensure salvation, and devout people often repeat it incessantly throughout the day, using strings of coloured beads to mark off the number of times. Another sect. Hokke Shu. believe in salvation by self-effort or works, and in the same way they repeat Namu mijo ho renge kejo ("O the wonderful beautiful law"). Both religions contain a great deal of good moral teaching, but while Buddhists attend temple services more frequently, the followers of Shinto chiefly observe festivals.

Whilst wandering in the neighbourhood of Nikko, I noticed numerous slips of paper at the corners where two roads met, and the following story of a Thousand Prayers explains the reason.

An old couple who lived in a country village had an only son who went to the war. One night the anxious father saw in a dream a heavenly Being, who told him to write his beloved son's name a thousand times on as many pieces of paper, and then to tie these slips on wooden pegs and plant them wherever he could find four cross roads, one slip in each corner. The poor old man walked miles and miles on his quest, and believed that he had ensured his son's safety. Other people, hearing of it, followed his example; and throughout 1904 the cross roads were thickly planted with these tokens of affection.

I only remained in Nikko for a few days, as it was still very hot and my destination was Yumoto, fifteen miles distant. The road thither lay past a beautiful village situated on the lake of Chuzenji, where many of the legations have summer residences. I did not linger there, however, but followed the little mountain road to Yumoto, which was so rough that we often had to get out

of our kurumas and walk. I was accompanied by O Chio San, my Japanese attendant, and the luggage was conveyed on horseback. At one place our men tried a short cut, and being unable to get their kurumas through, carried them on their shoulders, which had a very ludicrous effect. Words fail to describe the beauty and grandeur of the scenery on the way. Yumoto itself, lying at the foot of the pass, 5000 feet high, is surrounded by mountains and thick forests, and overlooks a large lake. We seemed to be in the very heart of Japan, and it was an ideal restingplace, the fresh air being most invigorating. Some people object to the smell of the strong sulphur waters, which issue from the ground at a temperature of 120° in little puffs of steam. There are several public baths, and in a country place like this, where the manners and customs of the people are still very primitive, men and women often bathe together.

Yumoto is situated in a volcanic region, and earthquakes are very frequent. The village consists of a few wooden houses and a comfortable small hotel, all of which are deserted in winter, when the snow lies deep and the cold is intense. My visit to it was paid in one of the seasons for the loveliest wild-flowers, and masses of hydrangeas were in bloom, as well as yellow chrysanthemums and different varieties of flowering-shrubs.

I met a few friends at Yumoto, and spent a pleasant time till September 3, when news was received of the terrible slaughter at Liaoyang. Feeling a great longing to resume my work, I returned to Nikko and remained three days there before taking the train to Tokyo. In

the hotel I came across a small party of travellers, consisting of an American lady, with her daughter, son-in-law, and a fox-terrier. The dog lay on soft cushions, covered with two embroidered Indian shawls, and was fanned while he slept during the midday heat. As the rule of not permitting dogs to travel in the same compartment as passengers is strictly enforced in Japan, and the precious darling could not travel alone, a saloon, at the cost of fourteen firstclass tickets, had to be engaged to convey the party back to Tokyo. He was a great contrast to the beautiful little Japanese dogs (called chin), with their silky hair, pug noses, and large black eyes, which are so much admired by Europeans. Their average weight is about 8 lb. They are very intelligent and affectionate, but unless great care is taken of them they cannot stand the

damp and rigours of an English winter, and owing to their delicacy they are even getting scarce in their own country. Not long ago the Empress of Japan sent a present of eight to Queen Alexandra, who is well known to be a lover of dogs, but only one has survived—a little "Togo."

The return journey was long and troublesome on account of the trooptrains which were bringing down reservists from the north for service at the front, and we were constantly being shunted in order to make way for them. The heat in Tokyo was still very great, and all the coolies had towels tied round their heads to prevent the perspiration running into their eyes. The moats, which during August had been covered with masses of beautiful lotus-flowers, now smelt very badly owing to the long drought. Children

were playing round the miry banks, but the strong odours did not seem to annoy their little noses.

Probably the good health of the population is largely due to a constant outdoor life and extreme cleanliness. Although open sewers run alongside the houses, an outbreak of enteric or malaria is very rarely known. There are no slums in Tokyo. The little bamboo and paper houses are fully exposed to the fresh air. One may drive for miles in the city (with its million and a half of inhabitants) through long streets of these fragile dwellings, each bearing such a close resemblance to the other that it would be easy to lose one's way amongst them. Children throng the streets, and it seems as if every other woman whom one meets has a baby on her back. Outbreaks of cholera occur occasionally, and cancer and consumption are very prevalent—the latter being chiefly owing to damp and to insufficient clothing during the cold winter winds.

In foreign villages unsavoury whiffs will often issue from the houses of the poor, but such is not the case in Tokvo. The inhabitants use plenty of soap and water every day. All over the city there are public baths with hot and cold water which can be used at the cost of one sen (rather more than a farthing), and for this small sum soap and towels are also provided. ing men bathe daily, and are very particular about keeping themselves clean. In muddy weather a coolie may often be seen washing his legs at a tap instead of waiting until his return home to do so.

In all the houses, rich or poor, shoes are removed at the entrance, and guests are provided with slippers, or leave their zori (sandals) outside and enter the house with bare feet, or in tabi (white socks reaching to the ankle). Each householder is obliged by law to have a "cleaning" twice a-year, when all his goods are put outside, the matting taken up, and the floors thoroughly swept. A policeman comes round on a certain day to inspect, and is responsible for having his orders carried out.

THE AUTUMN TOLL.

On September 8 I returned to the hospital, receiving a warm welcome from doctors and nurses, and finding many of my old friends amongst the officers still remaining there. The work had increased considerably during my absence: there were now about 3000 patients in our hospital, and over 12,000 in the city. Temporary buildings were still being erected to accommodate the many wounded who were arriving from the base hospitals.

I was asked to give my time to privates, amongst whom the press of work was greatest, and I now helped in two

connected wooden buildings, each having two partitions, containing one hundred patients, sixty of whom were suffering from kakke ("beri-beri"). There is no doubt that this disease will be the great problem for the medical authorities in the future, as more than seventy per cent of the soldiers were invalided home on that account. Often it runs a long wearisome course of many months, and causes swelling, and sometimes paralysis, in the legs. The tissues and muscles seem to waste away, so that the patient has no strength to stand or walk. When taken in time it is rarely fatal, but occasionally death occurs from heart-failure. Unfortunately, if a man has suffered from it once, he is liable to a recurrence. The chief predisposing causes appear to be damp, heat, and the excessive use of riceespecially rice eaten cold, as was often the case in the field. Kakke has been

stamped out in the navy, where the quantity of rice has been restricted and bread to a great extent substituted for it: and doubtless in time the same result will be achieved in the army. It is practically a summer disease, and makes its appearance at the beginning of the great heat. A few cases only were brought into the hospitals during the winter. Nourishing food, electrical treatment, and regular massage seem to be the principal remedies; and, consequently, all through the autumn the work was very heavy. In our barracks about fifty men had to be massaged every day, ten minutes for each limb.

Doctors Kanezawa and Takahashi gave me a kindly welcome, nevertheless a feeling of anxiety frequently came over me as to how I should get on with the privates, who usually could speak no European language. But they were

very friendly, and seemed much interested in my height, ornaments, dress, &c. Then they borrowed my eye-glasses and vainly tried to make them stick on their noses, which had little or no bridge. I was somewhat anxious lest the glasses should get broken, but the men were very gentle and always returned them without any damage being done. While doing massage I learnt many words and short sentences, but, unfortunately, the language spoken by men is quite different from that used by Japanese ladies. At times my remarks caused much amusement to the officers, though their good manners prevented them from laughing outright, unless I said, "Is not my Japanese okashi (funny)?" and then they would reply with smiles and many bows-"Yes, very."

Still, I could retaliate, for often their

English was equally wonderful as regarded grammar and construction. The funniest English, however, was most often to be seen in the notices over shops; as for instance—

"Europian Fashion Ornaments."

(Tailor.)

- "Higher Washman."
- "Brick built up Contractor."
- "Place for Barbering."
- "Hen meat." (Poulterer.)
- "Fulish Buter, criam, milk."
- "For the adorning." (Draper.)
- "Tonsorian parlor."
- "Geazier and Tainter."

Or, in the case of a house to let: "The above to let. There Mount Fuji on the up, and Island Enoshima on the down, can be seen when weather is most splendidly."

Again, near Miyanoshita, the following notice was printed in the garden of a

hotel: "No trees permitted to take in this garden, no fish permitted to catch in this ponds."

The next quotation is from a theatrical notice in my possession:—

"The purpose of the DRAMA can never be attaines unless the stage on which they act is must be perfectly decorated well upon stage with the beautiful colouring painted the Scenerys to harmonize with their costumes and the Scenes of the acts, as well as the new invention of the stage constructions. But we regret to say that the Scenery decoration in Japan were not being care so much about to produce any realistic of works, or never thought of doing it then do now hitherto, for the reason, we wish to inform the System which is full of defects and absurdities. The Designs of the stage which I will inscribeing in a brief as follows: Erected the Two Columns with the Capitals at both sides of the stage, and the bridge Ceiling across an arch between their tops. In the centre of the Arch, carved artistic design of the Panel, in it the combination of the Monograms within a frame and surrounded decorations are carving the Rosettes which hangs down to the both sides from the centre of the Panel, and the Laurels and Palms leaves on each side of the Panel. Abandon the silk Damask Curtain which is drawn up to the both sides which can be pulled apart easily to right and left. General they call the "TORMENT" (Drapery) which we hang down, in where place of the black clothes of the curtain of here tofore which were entire abolished, the Torment Drapery, are Reddish Brown Colours of the Satin, and the large Pillars of both sides of the stage covered with the same coloured clothes."

Then follows the programme, with a description of Act II. Scene 1—
"Return to the Miss Kosan home—
End of the dramitic Scene of the death of Ko-Sans Commit Suicided and died in a broken heart."

This will sound very amusing to English ears, but I have no doubt the Japanese can tell many equally good stories at the expense of foreigners. I heard, for example, of an English lady who was lecturing at a Girls' School where three or four hundred were present. It was

a great occasion, and the Emperor's picture was uncovered, when it is usual for all present to bow. Foreigners sometimes feel a little diffident about doing so, for fear it might be interpreted as an act of worship; but this lady determined to show that she had no such prejudice. When the girls rose in a body and began to bow deeply, she turned quickly to the picture which was hung behind the platform, and proceeded to bow too; but it seems that the right moment for this mark of respect had not arrived, and that the girls were bowing to her. She therefore presented the unique spectacle of a lady returning their salutations with her back turned to them. Politeness probably prevented even the ghost of a smile flitting over their faces, but one can imagine how the merry little musumes (girls) would amuse themselves in play hours practising deep bows at each other's backs, according to the funny foreign fashion.

To return, however, to the hospital. All through the autumn there was constant and varied work, for besides massage and helping with surgical dressings there were several helpless patients who required a great deal of attention. Sometimes a vase of flowers would be upset, or the bed-shelf would give way with all its contents. Hot drinking-water was being constantly called for, nails required trimming, crutches had to be fetched, ice brought for headaches, tobacco jars emptied, and meals served. **Patients** bed often required feeding, though far as possible they liked to be independent, even those who were blind preferring to hold the spoon themselves. They were invariably good-tempered. I never saw any quarrelling, rough play,

or ragging. They liked having their rooms festooned with flags, and would often point out the English and Japanese ones with a smile, and say, "Domei" ("Allies"). Flowers were their greatest delight, but, strangely enough, roses are not appreciated in Japan. They are considered too gaudy, and on account of their thorns are sometimes called thorny-peonies.

One morning when I arrived with my kuruma filled with flowers (which can be bought for a few sen in the streets), I saw a number of white-clothed figures with bare legs racing from all directions to meet me. At first I did not realise what they wanted, but when they surrounded me, holding out their hands and laughing like a party of merry schoolboys, I saw that they were asking for my flowers. I had not nearly enough for all, but that did not trouble

them, and those who received little bunches chaffed the late comers. That day I arrived empty-handed at my ward; so on future occasions I often hid the flowers at the bottom of my kuruma, only keeping a few for distribution on the way.

My diffidence with the privates soon vanished when one day the surgeon in my ward said, "We call you *Igirisu haha*" ("English Mother"), and seeing that I was pleased, the soldiers either called me that or *Oksan Gunjin* ("Soldiers' Lady").

There was sad and pathetic evidence of the war in Tokyo, for troops might constantly be seen passing on their way to the station, and one of the most pitiful sights was the long lines of stretchers conveying sick and wounded men from the trains to the hospital. In one week, no fewer than 3000

arrived. One morning the road was blocked by a company "marching to the war" to the sound of the bugles, and by soldiers returning from the front. It was a touching scene, and the poor worn faces of the sick men brightened at the sight of their comrades, and greetings were exchanged between the outgoing and returning troops.

There is a Japanese saying, "Nothing is so terrible as the yellow cap (infantry), and nothing so worthy of admiration as the green cap (medical staff)."

On September 28 the Crown Prince, with a large suite, visited the hospital, and before his arrival great preparations were made for his reception. Floors were first scrubbed, then flooded with water, which was afterwards swished out with long-handled wooden brooms. We all paddled about the damp wards with petticoats tucked up and bare feet.

The men's little treasures were folded in large handkerchiefs and stored away, and beds were arranged by measurement in straight lines. I was introduced to the Prince, who has a thoughtful intellectual face and a pleasant smile. A few days later Princess Alisugawa came and spoke a few words to me in English.

These were busy days, full of interest, and one realised more and more the heroism of Japanese soldiers. One poor fellow was terribly cut about by shell-fire. He had lost both eyes and his front teeth, besides being wounded in the leg and arm, but he was very patient, and said he felt no pain. As soon as the men were convalescent they usually sat on their heels, and two or three could chat on the same bed together. One day I watched a typical little scene of Japanese polite-

ness. Two sergeants at opposite sides made deep bows to each other. One spoke and held up his wee teapot, upon which the other bowed and crossed over to him. No. 1 pulled down his quilt and blankets and made a nice place with another bow. No. 2 got on the bed and bowed again. Then the foot-board was pulled out to make a table, another man fetched hot water, some little cakes and cigarettes were produced, and they settled down to their simple feast which lasted about two hours.

By the end of September the intense heat had quite disappeared, and the mosquitoes had retired into obscurity. The number of patients kept steadily increasing. Instead of 100 we had 120 in our wards, operations were very numerous, and the surgeons often looked quite tired out, after spending long hours in the operating theatre.

On one point of Japanese methods I would like to quote from Mr Seaman's work, 'From Tokyo through Manchuria':

"Everywhere in the hospitals the wisdom of the Japanese system of treating wounds at the front (non-operative interference on the field or afterwards, except under strict aseptic conditions) were emphasized. Thousands of lives were saved in this manner. The hospital corps men at the front had been trained practically as nurses.

"Here they are taught to apply the first-aid dressings in the most thorough and practical manner. The result was that many of the wounded needed nothing but medical treatment after their arrival. Hundreds of bullet wounds had been healed by first intention after first-aid dressings, and the result was to leave no doubt as to the asepsis of the modern bullet where the lesion is uncomplicated.

The high velocity of the modern bullet at short ranges had produced an almost explosive effect, as was noticeable in many cases recently received from Port Arthur, these bullets shattering bones and lacerating muscular tissue, probably to a greater extent than had been experienced in any other war. The Japanese rifle-bullet is nickel-plated over lead, and the rifle has an initial velocity of 700 metres the first second. Its diameter is 6.5 millimetres, and its range is 3000 metres. It is long, and has a slightly smaller diameter than the Russian ball. It seems to be absolutely aseptic, except when it ricochets and carries foreign matter, such as dirt, particles of cloth, &c., into the wound. The fieldgun has a range of 6000 metres with an initial velocity of about 500 metres, and the range of the mountain-gun is 4000 metres. It is the rule of the Japanese surgeons at the front to do little or no operating except in cases of extreme emergency, or where hemorrhage threatens immediate death. All cases are treated by the application of the first-aid dressing, and then sent to the rear as quickly as possible, then by hospital boat or transport to the base hospitals in Japan."

The officers often sent messages asking me to visit them in my spare moments, and usually some of them would drop into my room during the dinner-hour. Amongst others I went to see Lieutenant Kushibe, who knew English perfectly, though, as he was in bed with a broken jaw and a bullet in his neck which had not yet been extracted, he could only speak very indistinctly. In addition he had lost the use of his right arm. I met him again eight months later, practically cured except for a little stiffness and deep scars round his mouth and neck.

He, like all his companions, was longing to get back to the seat of war, notwithstanding his serious injuries. Those who returned invalided by sickness and not from wounds felt it bitterly, and one of them who was recovering from kakke said to me, "I must get well so that I can return as soon as possible, for I am ashamed to have been ill and not wounded." I heard of a young officer who had fallen to the ground severely wounded: seeing some ambulance-bearers coming to his assistance, he seized his rifle and rushed forward again to try to overtake his regiment. He had only gone a few steps when he fell down dead.

On October 1 Prince Karl Anton of Hohenzollern visited our ward and spoke to me in German. He is very handsome, about 6 feet 4 inches in height, and wore magnificent orders. His aidede-camp, Major von Schellenberg, is nearly as tall, and he also chatted for some time. A few days later General Prince Fushimi came, a tall well-set-up man, and very good-looking.

The bright autumn weather was now setting in, and our convalescents spent most of their time out of doors. There was great excitement when a public performance of sumo, or wrestling, was given in the grounds by some of the most noted professionals. It is the national sport of Japan, and the patients flocked in crowds to see it. There must have been several hundred present, and they looked very picturesque in their white kimonos, as they sat on the side of a small hill overlooking the wrestling tent, which was draped with purple hangings. The wrestlers were enormously fat men, with long hair twisted round their heads in plaits. Keeling gives the following account of the sport:-

"The wrestlers are a sight well worth seeing. Instead of being trained down until nothing is left but bone and muscle, they are fat and flabby, and during a contest they are naked, with the exception of a loin-cloth.

"When they enter the ring they squat upon the haunches and await the coming of the umpire. When that functionary puts in an appearance, dressed in the height of Japanese fashion, the wrestlers throw their bodies forward, rest upon their fingers and toes, and eye each other until the signal for combat is given: then they tackle one another just as the wrestlers do in the Greco-Roman matches, observing 'the fortyeight legal grips or position.' To win, however, a throw is not necessary, but one of the combatants must be pushed outside the limits of the ring, when the umpire drops his fan and declares the

victor. Then he who has won must fight others until he is conquered himself or comes out at the end the champion of the day. When there is a popular and unexpected win, the audience rise to their feet with a burst of cheering."

Many of the nurses went to see the performance, and some of the officers asked me to accompany them. But I did not appreciate the sight of those fat men tumbling each other over; so, after remaining for a few minutes, I returned to my ward, only to find it deserted except by those who were unable to walk or to be carried out.

The battle of Shaho was raging in the middle of October, and each day sad accounts reached us of terrible sufferings and long lists of casualties. An order was sent to the Red Cross Society for 100,000 bandages, and young nurses were being trained as quickly as

possible, and if they proved efficient, were permitted to give help before the usual probationary time had expired. One day a patient died rather suddenly in our ward after an operation, - the first death I had seen, for as a rule very bad cases were removed to another building which contained small rooms with two beds, and where perfect quiet could be ensured. All the kakke patients were leaving and being kept together in special wards, so we had wounded men only, and not quite so much massage to do. One man had been shot through the lungs, several had bad lacerated wounds, and others arrived with partially healed amputations. It was wonderful what they lived through, owing to clever surgery, but it meant an enormous number wholly incapacitated for work in the future. There were no rejoicings at this time in Tokyo. The glory of victory was overshadowed by the death and suffering of thousands.

When November set in, the early mornings were very cold in the wooden barracks, which were exceedingly draughty. But both nurses and patients seemed to appreciate the fresh bracing air, and doors and windows were constantly wide open. A Frenchman once said, "Les Japonais adorent les courants d'air." As soon as the authorities found that I had a bad cold, they requested me to return to the main building and help again with officers. It made a pleasant change returning to my old friends, of whom, however, only a few were still remaining. Dr Soh, with whom I had been working before, seemed glad to see me again, but he had no longer any time to spare for studying English, in which he used to take great delight. The convalescent subalterns rather wasted my time, as they expected to be amused by listening to my broken Japanese and improving their own English. They were dear boys, and I could not refuse when two or three would come to me with deep bows, saying, "Please give us your time." One day Captain Tagenouchi brought out his tunic to show me: the lining had been drenched with blood, and it contained a great many holes, showing where the bullets had pierced him. Then he lovingly reached down his sword, and, drawing it out of the scabbard, said, "Look at these dark marks on the blade, they are Russian blood." It was a ghastly sight, and I asked him to put aside these mementoes of the horrors of war. For two months I spent every day in the hospital (except occasional Sundays), and got more and more interested in the work, though I often wished to be able to keep up a sustained conversation with those who could only speak their own language.

The young officers were very keen to gain information about England, its sport, home life, &c., and usually ended up by asking my age. This is considered a polite question in Japan, but I always replied "One hundred" to privates, and "Old enough to be your mother" to officers. The Japanese certainly excel in courtesy and pretty manners, and one soon learns that there are warm and loyal hearts under the surface, and that they never forget a kindness or throw over a friend.

One evening as I was going home my kuruma was stopped by a policeman, who bowed and smiled, but intimated that we were to follow him. He walked alongside, and I thought that perhaps Fusa,

my runner, had got into trouble, and that we were going to the police-station; but he soon led the way to a well-dressed man who was lying on a bench groaning and chattering in French, and I found that I was wanted to interpret. He had been knocked over in the street, and was not seriously hurt, but in a real bad temper, and greatly excited about his silver-mounted stick, which he said had been stolen. If he had taken the trouble to look round, he would have seen it in a corner behind the bench. I brought it to him, and requested him to try to keep quiet, as he was attracting a large crowd, which was being kept back by several policemen. Having fetched some futons from a little shop, we awaited the arrival of a stretcher, and the police were much relieved when I told them that he wanted to be taken to the Hôtel Métropole. He kept abusing the

Japanese, and shouting, "Oh les barbares," which, to say the least, was very inappropriate. The last I saw of him was his being carried off on the stretcher by four cheery little policemen.

Japanese policemen are superior, welleducated men, the majority being descended from old Samurai families. summer uniform is cool and sensible, being made of white drill, and they wear jack-boots, and peaked caps surrounded by a white band. A great many in Tokyo are getting a good knowledge of English through attending daily classes held by Miss Palmer, an English lady who instructs them in the language and in Scriptural knowledge. It would be an insult to offer one of them a tip, although they are always on the alert, and ready to give assistance or direct a stranger on his way. They are very smart little men, and there seemed to be a large number of them in the city.

Japanese detectives are considered some of the best in the world. A record is kept of the character of any doubtful individual. A foreigner arriving during war-time could never escape the vigilant eyes of the police, strangers being carefully questioned and shadowed during their stay in the country. I was often amused at the strong guard kept over me at various times during my travels, when a policeman was frequently ordered never to lose sight of me outside the house, and was made responsible for my safety, in which case he would sit up all night near my room. Even had I wished to do so, it would have been impossible to have given him the slip.

On November 15 the Empress gave her annual garden-party. Being in deep mourning, I could not attend, but received permission to go and see the famous chrysanthemums the following day, in the beautiful gardens of the Crown Prince's Palace. The flowers were mostly arranged in long covered buildings, and there were some very fine specimens. The chief novelty consisted of nine plants in separate buildings, trained in pyramidal circles of an enormous size, the largest plant having 1255 blooms. The head gardener told me that they are raised every year from cuttings, and forced chiefly with oilcake plentifully mixed with rich soil. Some of the plants had three or four branches of different coloured blooms on the same stem.

There were a great many beds in the open, filled with sweet-scented and bright-coloured flowers; but I appreciated the grounds even more than the show of chrysanthemums, for the Japanese excel in landscape-gardening. Lakes and bridges were grouped with large blocks of rocks and stones, and numbers of little islands and flat stepping-stones led from one side to the other. Even at this late autumn season a few bright-red leaves clung to many of the maples, giving gorgeous touches of colour to the scenery. My two kind guides showed me all the beauties of the gardens, including the pretty teahouse, a favourite resort in summer for the Crown Prince's children, also a large wire enclosure containing storks and water-fowl, and a special corner kept apart for plum-trees, which in early spring are a mass of rosy blossoms. The thickets were covered with miniature bamboo, which in Japan usually takes the place of grass. It had a good effect under the dark foliage of the pines, but one's eye seemed to miss

the long stretches of velvety turf which we have in the large gardens of our English homes.

Pines are seldom allowed to grow after their own sweet will, but are twisted into many grotesque shapes, and at a later time I saw one in the Temple grounds at Kyoto trained into the shape of a vessel, even the masts and sails being well represented. was quite a work of art, and much time must have been spent every year in trimming and training it. I enjoyed my ramble in the peaceful garden, which seemed far away from the haunts of men, although in reality it was in the heart of the city. I asked to be allowed to see the stables; but the best horses were absent, as they had been taken to the seaside, where the Crown Prince was staying. Two especially good riding-horses still remained, one

of which had been imported from England the previous year, and is a great favourite with his master. He is called Yacht, and seemed quite pleased at hearing English again, though no doubt he was learning Japanese quickly from his grooms. I asked one of my friends why the ladies in his country did not ride, upon which he replied, "It is not the custom, and a girl who did so would never get married." I wonder what he would think of our American cousins, who ride astride in the neatest and most practical of divided skirts, often bare-headed, the younger ones cantering gaily along with masses of fair hair floating in the wind.

During November there were several chrysanthemum shows in various parts of the town, but the most interesting one was held at a place called Dango-Zaka, situated in the suburbs. Here the young shoots had been gradually trained into the most wonderful shapes, receiving constant attention all through the year from clever gardeners, who had placed each leaf and flower into its proper position. The most remarkable group was a representation of Port Arthur. White chrysanthemums trained over bamboo trellis formed the walls, and the figures, which were life-size, had plaster faces and hands, their bodies and thighs being formed of various coloured flowers grown on their roots. These figures were most realistic, the colours of the uniform being correctly carried out, and they wore real soldiers' caps, leggings, and boots. The faces were well painted, and had a fierce and warlike expression, especially those of the defenders, leaning over the walls, and holding rifles or swords. The flowers were mostly of the smallest varieties, and a daily sprinkling of water kept them fresh for about a month. Another remarkable group represented the death of Commander Hirose, and had been arranged on a revolving stage, which turned slowly round to the sound of soft music, showing both sides of the ship. The large pots containing the plants were hidden by a border of painted wood. The show was evidently most popular, and towards evening people came in crowds, as the effect was considerably enhanced by brilliant electric light.

The following day the Empress went round our hospital, speaking a few words to some of the officers, and standing at the entrance to the privates' wards in full view of the patients, who seemed deeply to appreciate her kind visit and sympathy. The nurses, who stood in rows, kept their heads so deeply bowed

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that I doubt if they caught even a glimpse of her kindly face. She shook hands with me, and gave me a charming smile when I curtseyed in English fashion.

THROUGH THE SOUTHERN HOSPITALS.

IT was shortly after this that I was invited by the Red Cross Society to make a tour of three weeks with Miss Sato, and to visit the hospitals in Southern Japan. She was going round to supervise the nurses' work, and although I felt rather sorry to be leaving my work in Tokyo even for a short time, the expedition promised to be most interesting, and one that would afford me an opportunity of seeing some of the most beautiful spots in Japan. We left Tokyo on November 27, and a great many officials from the Red Cross



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but appear to be very strong, and in the towns they carry large loads on their backs. Women take their full share of work during the rice harvest, which is in full swing during November, and are dressed in short skirts and dark-blue tights. The rice is made into tiny cocks, often set in rows of fifteen or twenty, or tied on to small trees, which look very quaint, reminding one in shape of the old-fashioned Jack in the Green.

I now had my first experience of Japanese houses, and on arriving at a hotel it was rather astonishing to be shown into a room with sliding walls of bamboo and oiled paper, through which visitors could walk if they wished. The rooms were almost devoid of furniture, and according to foreign ideas contained nothing serviceable. The floors were covered with mats, layers of straw underneath making them very soft.

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When a house is advertised to let the sizes of the rooms are described by the number of mats, which are always of the same dimensions, six feet long by three feet broad. On entering my room for the first time I sat down on the floor and laughed. There was a small hibachi in the middle, a screen, a wee table about two feet high, a vase of flowers, one kakemono (hanging picture), and a few cushions. Washing arrangements were carried out in large troughs fitted with taps in a courtyard, but in every case there was a good bathroom, and Hoshino, my maid, used to carry a little basin for my use into the balcony outside my room. At night two or three soft and comfortable futons (quilts) were brought in and laid on the floor. A heavily wadded one was used as a coverlet over the sheet, the latter being so small that it usually wandered away before morning. After

dark, wooden shutters, called amado, were slid into grooves all round the house, and kept in position by bolts, the front entrance alone being left open till all the family had retired to their rooms. At a later time, when I got more intimate with the Japanese ladies and visited them in a quiet friendly way, I found that all the houses were equally simple, and that heirlooms and household treasures, were usually kept in godowns, and brought out two or three at a time. The rooms strike foreigners at first as very bare, but those who have lived some time in the country gradually adopt the same style, only with the addition of carpets, tables, and chairs, and they much prefer it to the English drawingrooms, which are often so overcrowded with expensive knick-knacks.

On our journey I saw a great deal of Japanese ceremony, and the same for-

malities were more or less carried out in every town. The governor, the president, and committee of the local Red Cross Society, the military commandant, and the head of the police, were usually awaiting our arrival at the stations. Visiting-cards were exchanged, and then I used to follow the governor down the lines of Red Cross ladies, of whom there were often thirty to forty present, while he introduced us to one another. Afterwards we were escorted to a room in the station or an adjoining tea-house, where tea, cakes, and sweetmeats were served. Then we got into kurumas, the secretary and often an interpreter being in attendance, and went to our destination at one of the hotels, when a programme arranged for the time of our stay would be submitted for my approval.

After we had changed our dresses, visitors began to arrive, when we all

sat on cushions on the floor, the Japanese according to their custom sitting on their heels, and we all made deep bows with our faces nearly touching the ground. Ladies would usually pause at the entrance of the door awaiting an invitation to come in, when I would hold out my hand and lead them to the cushions, the most important lady having her seat in front of the tokonama, a recess slightly raised above the level of the floor. It usually contains a vase of flowers, a kakemono (hanging picture) which is changed about four times a-year, and a lacquer-box. I found that the ladies liked shaking hands with me, although it is not the usual custom in Japan, even nearest relations only bowing to each other. Kissing is unknown, and is considered a most objectionable custom. Women rarely kiss their babies, but love and cuddle them in truly motherly

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fashion when they are not strapped on their backs. As soon as visitors rise to leave, the hostess is expected to conduct them to the front door, to wait till they have found their zori (sandals), and then speed them on their way with deep bows. On several occasions I nearly toppled over, until I found that the Japanese keep their balance by putting their hands on their knees.

The hotels usually provided foreign food until I told Miss Sato that I preferred one Japanese meal during the day.

We often visited four or five hospitals in one day, but in the large towns where there were several Divisions two or three were necessary for the round. There was a good deal of formality at the hospitals, for the director, head surgeon, and several ladies of the Nursing Association always met us and accompanied us to the wards; but first of all

tea was handed round in the receptionroom, where we inscribed our names in the visitors' book. Miss Sato usually talked to the head nurses while I went to the patients. Those who were able to do so sat up on their heels in straight lines, and, at the word of command from a sergeant, bowed.

Orderlies and nurses stood in long rows at the entrance, and while passing down between them we all bowed, after which I was left more to my own devices. Many of the soldiers had round boyish faces, and responded freely and without any shyness to my broken sentences, which no doubt caused many a joke afterwards. When visiting the officers, those who could speak English would come forward on their own accord and present their cards. Some of the most interesting sights were the large recreation-rooms provided for privates,

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who are allowed to use them in the afternoons. There was every convenience, and besides quantities of cushions, the rooms often contained tables and chairs, besides a bagatelle-board, gramophone, harmonium, and several shogi (boards), an ancient game originally brought from China, and popular. Officers seemed usually to prefer go, which is very scientific, and so difficult to learn that it takes foreigners years to master it.

The recreation-rooms also contained numerous dwarf plants in pots, besides which little lanterns and flags hung in festoons from the beams or from the electric fittings. The walls were gay with coloured pictures, and it was evident that kind hearts wished to help the soldiers to spend a happy time during the long days of convalescence, when heavy rains would often prevent them from strolling in the grounds which

surrounded every hospital. A canteen was always to be seen standing a little apart, where boys of ten to fourteen, whose fathers had died in the war, were allowed to sell and to run messages between school hours. In every town a detached building in one of the Divisions was reserved for the use of insane patients. Considering the number of head wounds, there was a very small percentage of such cases.

After having finished our rounds we were escorted to the public room, where little cups of tea were again handed round. Then, thanking the officials for the cordial welcome they always extended to us, we remounted our kurumas, and with many bows and sayonaras ("good-byes") started off to our next destination.

As I spent a long time in the hospitals at Hiroshima the following year, I will

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not describe them here, but will pass on to Kure, a particularly interesting place, reached in one hour by steamboat from Hiroshima. It is eighteen years since it was made a naval station, at which time there were only 300 inhabitants. Now there are 80,000, and the population is increasing on an average of 1000 yearly. No Europeans live at Kure, and the people stared at me in wide-eyed astonishment, and the children laughed and chattered.

The hospital had 600 beds, but at this time was only half full. One man showed me his legs, which had been riddled with wounds through the explosion of a mine. The patients had amused themselves by constructing a wonderful tree of twisted white paper, about four feet high, which looked almost like a natural one covered with snow.

During our journeys we frequently

saw troops leaving the stations, and I was struck by the calmness of the women, who looked with tearful eyes after the departing trains containing those they loved best. There were no noisy lamentations, but as they left the platforms they were often weeping silently, and holding their long sleeves to their eyes; while sometimes sympathising friends led them gently away to the little homes, many of which would soon be the abode of widows and orphans. One could not fail to observe the dignity of the send-off of the troops,-often no more than a few waving flags, with cheers and deep bows from the assembled crowds, but never any shouting or disorderly scenes. Self-control and reserve are two of the greatest characteristics of the people, who learn from childhood to hide their grief for fear of giving pain to others.

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One of my friends told me a touching incident. She went to see a mother whose son had been killed in the war. At first she laughed and spoke of the great honour that had come to her family, and how proud she was that he had been privileged to die for his country; but shortly afterwards nature had its way, and she broke into a storm of tears. Then turning to her friend she apologised for having grieved her.

The next day we took a small steamer across to Matsuyama, and then for the first time I was on the Inland Sea. It is 250 miles long, and stretches from the Straits of Shimonoseki to Kobe. Inland Sea! The very name suggests the idea of peace, and it seemed almost a desecration to be crossing it in a modern steamboat with noisy machinery and puffing funnel. It would have been more

appropriate to have glided in and out amongst the miniature islands in a bamboo fishing-boat, its white sails propelled by soft breezes, and to have been able to lie in dreamy indolence watching the lights and shadows falling on the calm waters. There may be grander scenery in Scotland, or among the snow-capped mountains of Switzerland and Norway, but the Inland Sea is unique, and seems lovingly to wash the Southern coast of the country of poesy and art. It is rarely that storms disturb its serenity, and thousands of islands rise to view in quick succession and in almost bewildering confusion. It would hardly have been a surprise to have seen a little boat of fantastic shape issue from the sandy beach of one of these miniature islets, drawn by stately swans, and guided with silken cords by laughing fairies in rainbow - hued attire, flutter-

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ing their gossamer wings like the brilliant dragon-flies that flit round the shores of Shikoku.

"And frequent zephyrs there from spicy isles
Ruffle the placid ocean deep that rolls
Its broad bright surges to the sloping sand,
Whose roar is wakened into echoings sweet
To murmur through the heaven-breathing groves,
And melodise with man's best nature then."

When we reached the little landing-place at Matsuyama, Governor Ando, Colonel Matsui, Professor Kikuzi, and about fifteen ladies met us on the pier, and we all travelled together in the train, reaching the town in twenty minutes, where hundreds of Russians were living as prisoners of war. The island is considered one of the most beautiful in the Inland Sea. Ranges of mountains, clothed nearly to the summits with pines, protect it from the cold easterly winds which sweep through the country in

early spring. Palms and orange-trees flourish in the valleys, and bamboos form evergreen forests, interspersed with rare flowering-shrubs. The prisoners were allowed as much freedom as was possible in the circumstances. They might go into the town for shopping, walk as far as the sea-shore, about ten miles distant, and bathe in the hot springs at Dogo, which are considered a specific for rheumatism and skin diseases.

The Japanese treated them more as honoured guests than as prisoners, and they seemed to appreciate the kindness shown them, although a few of the officers chafed under the unavoidable restraint of having to go out like schoolboys, six at a time, in charge of a Japanese officer. Time seemed to hang heavily on their hands; but they expected a consignment of games and literature from the Czarina in time for

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Christmas (January 6, the date kept by the Greek Church). Some of the elder men among the Naval officers seemed sad and depressed: they had been in exile for many months—ever since they were rescued from the wreck of the Rurik.

The rations of the officers consisted of a daily allowance of 1lb. meat or fish, 1½lb. bread, about 1½lb. vegetables, butter, tea, sugar, pickles, &c. Privates had much the same, but were supplied with the black rye-bread to which they are accustomed. This fare could be supplemented out of their private purses, as they were allowed to receive money from their friends, as well as letters and packages.

In the afternoon we visited the hospital, which was situated on the outskirts of the town, about a mile from Matsuyama, and built on the same plan as other Japanese hospitals, with the same comforts and conveniences. It contained 923 patients, and another building to accommodate 1000 more was in process of erection. The officers were in large wards, divided into cubicles to hold two, with white hangings in front. They were mostly tall, fine-looking men, with fair hair, but some of them were very stout. Surgeon-General Kikuchi was a marvel of patience and tact in his management of an officer whose mind was affected, and who gave a great deal of trouble, as he was under the impression that he was still in command, and also the head of the hospital. The privates struck me as being of unequal heights: many of them were no taller than Japanese, and not so muscular, and they gave me the impression of being less able to stand strain or fatigue.

Several had a servile look, and their

hands and nails were not kept so scrupulously clean as the patients I had been accustomed to. A good many of them could speak German, and they crowded round eagerly craving for news. of them, a huntsman of the Czar, felt his position keenly, and as he became convalescent longed for a free outdoor life again; but for a few moments he seemed to forget his troubles while recounting his sporting adventures, and his face brightened up as he lived again in the past. The men had comfortable mattresses on the floor, with plenty of blankets, white sheets, and soft pillows, instead of the hard little makura used by the Japanese, and they all wore white wadded kimonos. A few of the wounds were serious, but as a rule they were all healing rapidly under the skilful care of the surgeons. Nothing could exceed the attention of the Red Cross nurses,

who were evidently much attached to their patients.

Many of these Russians had fine melodious voices, and they treated me to some part-singing; but their songs were low and sad, often in a minor key, and sounded like the lament of captives in a strange land. No doubt some of them were contented with a life of enforced idleness, surrounded by comforts and consideration, but many were longing for their freedom and their homes. The courteous and chivalrous Japanese did all in their power to give them pleasure, and to meet their wishes whenever it was possible, and at a later time they employed teachers to hold classes and to teach the prisoners who could not do so to read and write, so that they might communicate with their friends. The Government was quite ready to send them back to their own

country, if, in accordance with international law, the Russians had been willing to make an exchange of prisoners.

Afterwards we visited Dogo, where many convalescent Japanese, who were undergoing the cure of the hot springs, assembled in a large room to meet us. It was pleasant to see their bright faces, and there was much merriment over our mutual struggles to make ourselves intelligible, their English being very bad, and my Japanese a great deal worse.

The baths at Dogo are well arranged, and have a constant flow of natural hot water. The manager showed us over the various rooms, and afterwards we all drank hot water which was supposed to be flavoured with dried cherry blossoms, but as a matter of fact tasted of nothing at all.

It was late in the evening when we took the return boat to Hiroshima, and

I was sorry when we reached our destination and left the fascinating Inland Sea with all its beauties behind.

The next interesting place that we visited was Nagasaki, which entailed making a little detour; and here I found that the Red Cross officials had engaged a charming room for me, with a verandah overlooking the harbour. The sun was very powerful during the day, and a little swallow, the harbinger of good luck, flew in at my window. The country round is almost semi-tropical, with orange-groves, palms, and large forests of bamboo growing luxuriantly. The latter are wonderfully useful, and grow to the height of from eighteen to twenty feet in an incredibly short time; in fact, one can almost see a young healthy plant pushing out shoots in the early spring. Bamboo seems to be used for every practical and domestic purpose,

and is so light that the stretchers in the hospitals made of canvas and supported by bamboo poles only weigh 12 lb. "A small species of bamboo serves to make tobacco-pipe stems; one of intermediate size makes ornamental doors and palings, in which the varying height of the joints gives a natural pattern. Others, cut into thin strips which are sometimes bound with silk, form window-blinds; and the tender sprouts of more than one species are even boiled and eaten as a vegetable.

"Penholders, broom-handles, walkingsticks, umbrella-handles, and also the ribs of umbrellas, angling rods, whips, ladders, yard-measures, bows and arrows, coolies' hats, ornamental floors for verandahs and tea-rooms, travelling trunks, torches, chopsticks, spits, bird-cages, fish-traps, flutes, trumpets, picture-frames, cash hoops, even nails (for being nonconductors of heat and non-corrosible, bamboo nails do better for certain purposes than metal ones), ladles, tea-scoops, sieves, shutters, fans, flower-vases, toys, and ornaments of innumerable kinds. are all manufactured out of bamboo. Nothing makes a better tube for keeping unmounted photographs from the damp than does a section of bamboo. The dried sheath of the culm of the young bamboo serves for wrapping up such things as rice sandwiches, meat, and cakes, which are apt to stain their receptacles; also for the manufacture of sandals and the soles of wooden clogs. The leaves of the bamboo grass (which is a sort of bamboo) provide a clean, cool surface on which to lay fish in a basket, the basket itself being often of bamboo split and twisted. One kind can, by a process of boiling, be flattened out into trays

which are much prized. Another species, which is non-hollow, is cut into seals. The above list could easily be extended, but it may suffice to show that Japanese life without the bamboo is almost as hard to picture to oneself as pastry without butter, landscape without light, or a Britisher without a grievance." 1

Among the prettiest presents I received from my kind Japanese friends were a box and a tray made of plaited bamboo, and two crabs carved in a most life-like manner out of bamboo root.

From Nagakasi we travelled to Sasebo, and on the way met Madame Kitajima (lady-in-waiting to the Empress), who was going the round of the hospitals with enquiries and messages from her Majesty to the patients.

Sasebo owns the most important Naval Hospital in Japan, with accommodation

^{1 &#}x27;Things Japanese,' Chamberlain.

for 600 patients, but it was only half full at this time. One man had lost his leg and arm, and another was so riddled with pieces of shell that the marks could not be counted. The inmates had mostly come from Port Arthur. One of the wards contained nine Russians, but they could only speak their own language.

On December 11 we left Sasebo, and half-way, at the junction to Kumamoto, were met by the director of the Red Cross Society and by the chief constable. At most of the stations people had assembled to have a few words, but the heartiest welcome of all awaited me at Kumamoto ("the home of the bear"). The streets were decorated with hundreds of union-jacks, many of the poor people having made them out of paper, and about 2000 lined the roads through which I passed, smiling and bowing.

Miss Sato and my maid stayed at

the hotel, and I was hospitably entertained for three days by Miss Riddell in her pretty little house. She has given up her whole life to the care of the Leper Hospital, which she established about ten years ago. Many of these poor creatures flock to a temple some two or three miles distant from the town, hoping by their prayers to receive some relief, and also for the purpose of begging. There is a tradition that a famous noble named Kato Kiyomasa, in memory of whom the hospital was built, was himself a leper. He was a great warrior, and practically the ruler over all that district. It is said that on one occasion he was invited by another noble to a tea ceremony, but owing to the great breadth of his shoulders he stuck in the little doorway and could move neither backwards nor forwards. The tea-room was constructed

in the usual dainty fashion, with slender posts of bamboo and a plaited rush-covered roof. A kind friend seeing his predicament gave him a shove, upon which the flimsy structure collapsed, and he emerged with the frame of the door upon his massive shoulders.

After his death a beautiful shrine was erected to his memory, which is reached by a long flight of stone steps covered with moss and overshadowed by large shady trees. The steps are worn away (as in the case of the Santa Scala at Rome) by the feet of weary pilgrims, who for centuries have toiled up and down, each one considering that he must visit the shrine continually during his stay, in order to obtain an answer to his prayers. Formerly the approach was lined with beggars, but for the greater safety of the public they are now limited to a railed-off space, where

they spend long days chanting monotonous prayers with their poor cracked voices. At present there appears to be very little legislation for leprosy, but no doubt in time the Japanese will meet the emergency and do their best to stamp it out of the country. Remains are still left of roads which Kiyomasa planned after having built the Castle of Kumamoto. They were sunk seven or eight feet below the level of the ground in order to enable his soldiers to march to and fro without observation.

The military hospitals at Kumamoto had accommodation for 5000 patients. One man was totally blind; another had been shot through the throat and would never be able to speak again. I noticed that there were a great many head wounds, probably on account of the Russians firing down from the heights round Port Arthur. In one of the

wards a sturdy young fellow was shouting Rusko, Rusko, thinking that he was still fighting the Russians; he was being controlled by two nurses, while regaining consciousness from chloroform. An empty ward was being prepared for the reception of 200 patients; it was the largest I had seen, although practically all the hospitals were erected on the same principle.

Many of the patients looked very young, though they gave their age as twenty-three or twenty-four, the reason being that a baby is considered one year old when it is born, and two years old at the next New Year, so that a December baby is called two years old in the following January. When a man enters the army and his age is officially taken, he has to give the date of birth; so occasionally there must be a little confusion in his mind as to his own correct age.

On returning to the hotel I found that the head of the police had appointed a policeman as my guard, who not only had to run after me in a kuruma all day long, stand behind my chair at entertainments, peep round the corner at the hospitals to see that I did not get lost, but even sleep in the little hall in Miss Riddell's house.

One evening the Vice-Governor (in the absence of the Governor) invited us to a Japanese dinner, which was attended by the leading officials of the town, and several ladies. Of course we all sat on the floor in Japanese fashion, and I managed to tuck my feet away somewhere in the soft cushions, and leant my arm on the padded elbow-rest provided for my use. The feast lasted from 6.30 P.M. till 11, but it was not at all wearisome, being full of novelty from beginning to end. One after another

dainty little dishes were brought in on lacquer trays by pretty waitresses, who moved very slowly and noiselessly, and as they reached each guest, knelt down and bowed deeply.

The dinner commenced with fish soup, followed by raw fish cut in thin slices,formerly it was customary to bring in a live fish for inspection before cutting it up,-and a lacquer bowl filled with rice, which was constantly refilled as required; and little by little one dish succeeded another until at last there were no less than fifteen in front of each guest, stretching a long way into the room. As there was plenty of time between each course, I managed to get on very well with chopsticks, although the slippery morsels would occasionally escape from my grasp and land in the soup, or on the tray, when an amused smile would flit over the faces of those present, and they would

offer me a spoon, which, however, I did not accept. Some of the dishes were excellent, especially a transparent jelly made of sea-weed, and fish cooked in a variety of different ways. One favourite dainty, called tofu, is made from bean curd, and looks something like blancmange, though it tastes more like Yorkshire pudding. Shoyu (soy sauce), which is commonly used at all meals, is made from a fermented mixture of barley meal, pounded beans, and yeast.

Towards the end of the repast my host came forward to toast me. The little dishes were pushed on one side, and he knelt in front of me, bowing to the ground. I did the same, and then handed him my lacquer cup, which he raised to his forehead, whereupon we both bowed again. One of the wait-resses came forward with a curiously shaped bottle containing sake, with which

she filled the tiny cup. He first drank the contents, and then, rinsing it in a silver bowl, held out the cup to be refilled, and passed it back to me. I just tasted it, and after three more salutations he returned to his place. Then I rose, and going slowly down the room to my hostess, Mrs Egi, knelt in front of her, and we went through the same ceremony, one of the gentlemen coming forward and arranging the long tail of my dress while we did so.

It was a charming evening, and gave me my first glimpse of a real Japanese entertainment. When we left, little wooden boxes containing some of the dinner which we had not touched were sent to our rooms.

As there were no hospitals to visit the following day we were entertained by the Japanese ladies, who escorted us in the morning to a beautiful garden

laid out with rocks and curiously twisted trees. The large lake was traversed by stepping-stones, some of which were flat and slippery, and half-way across I nearly slid into the shallow water (about two feet deep), much to the consternation of my little friend the policeman, who as usual was following close behind. There was a small Shinto temple in the grounds, and long strips of white paper with prayers written upon them were hanging on the surrounding trees. The trout in the lake attain an enormous size, for, being considered sacred, they are never caught.

In the afternoon we saw a performance of *Jujitsu* (or scientific throwing), which is a wonderful exercise of self-defence, and formerly much practised by the Samurai. Apparently more of knack than strength is used in the throw, and it appears to be a fine

physical exercise, demanding strong nerve and quickness. The men who were thrown had evidently learnt the art of falling without injury to themselves,-but it would require an expert to explain the intricacies of this fascinating mode of self-defence. It is taught in the Military and Peers' Schools, and the police also have a good knowledge of its methods, which no doubt they often find useful. It has recently been introduced into England with great success, and schools have been established with Japanese teachers. I heard rather an amusing story of an English lady who, on meeting a friend, said to her, "My husband has quite lost his appetite. I wish I could find something to do him good." Her friend replied, "You had better get him to try Jujitsu, which will probably cure him in a short time," upon which the

lady answered, "I never heard of it before; how do you cook it?"

Afterwards there was a fine display of fencing, another accomplishment in which the Japanese are proficient. following quotation from Keeling gives a graphic description of the way it is practised at the present day. "Fencing," he says, "is a favourite exercise among all classes, and is practised to give proficiency in the use of the two-handed Previous to commencing, the sword. performers invariably salute each other with true Japanese ceremony, such as, 'Will you do me the favour to teach me the art of fencing?' 'How can I, when I am about to have the pleasure of profiting by your superior knowledge?' At the same time they bow with their heads to the ground. After engaging each other and battering each other with untiring energy, the same ceremony and politeness are repeated, and mutual thanks expressed. Each pass is accompanied by theatrical attitudes and expressive gestures; each blow provokes from both sides passionate exclamations. In fencing, the head is protected by a strong mask, with iron bars over the face, and thick quilted curtains down the neck round the ears: the body also has a cuirass of bamboo and leather, and the hips a sort of kilt of the same material. Notwithstanding all the armour, severe blows, unless warded, inflict considerable pain, and occasion loss of temper, which sometimes results in fierce hand-to-hand grappling; in which case, the one who first tears the mask from his adversary is deemed the victor. There is also a kind of fencing for Japanese ladies. Their weapon is a lance, with a bent head, somewhat similar to the scythe.

They carry it with the point toward the ground, and handle it, according to rules, in a series of attitudes, passes, and cadenced motions."

I saw the latter practised in one of the leading schools at Tokyo, and the girls were exceedingly lithe and active, occasionally giving vent to piercing screams, at an exciting moment.

After the fencing we went on to the principal hospital, and had a short exhibition of dancing, or rather of posturing, all the movements of the dancers being slow and graceful. They were dressed in the costumes of three hundred years ago. About 400 patients were sitting on the ground, and seemed thoroughly to enjoy the entertainment. On our way back we paused to see the grounds of the old castle; and the smoke of a volcano could be discerned about fifty miles distant.

We left Kumamoto the next day with great regret, for our kind friends had done their utmost to give us pleasure, and they came in large numbers to the station to wish us good-bye. Groups of people were on the look out wherever the train stopped, and I felt deeply touched at receiving their warm thanks, so far from Tokyo.

We stayed that night at Moji in order to visit the Kokura hospitals, which had accommodation for over 5000 patients. The percentage of deaths in them was 1.5, which was a little higher than in other places, for here, as at Hiroshima, patients were received straight from the hospital ships.

The Japanese are certainly wonderfully good-tempered. As a man with a hand cart was running down a steep incline he collided with my kuruma, nearly upsetting it, and injuring the wing, besides

damaging a good deal of the paint. Yet nobody got in the least excited. Miss Sato said to me in her gentle voice, "Are you hurt?" The two men exchanged a few words, examined the kuruma, bowed to each other, and passed on.

Apparently Japanese do not even what are commonly called possess "swear words." One of the most abusive expressions is berranne (contemptible thing), and as men are rarely seen in the streets under the influence of strong drink, brawls and bad language are practically unknown. Not long ago an English interpreter, employed by the Police Court at Kobe, came to one of the missionaries, considerably perturbed at having been unable to translate a sentence. It appeared that an English sailor, having been asked to give his name, replied, "I'm blowed if I do."

—a remark which so far had not found a place in the interpreter's vocabulary.

Our next destination was Osaka, which, after Tokyo and Hiroshima, contained the largest number of patients, having accommodation for 9000. A building which had been erected the previous year for an art exhibition was being used by officers. The rooms were very large and airy, and in one of the halls cubicles had been arranged, divided one from the other by white hangings. There were only a few serious cases, and these hospitals also were only partially full. Quilts were marked with a red line about six inches wide on the beds of those who could not walk or help themselves, and with a green line for convalescents. The hospital of the first division had the finest recreation-room I had yet seen, and evidently the inhabitants of Osaka had contributed

liberally to its adornment, the pictures, for example, being well selected and handsomely framed. There was a small shooting-gallery, evidently a very popular amusement, and two harmoniums, at which the patients could amuse themselves by picking out tunes with one finger.

So far, music has not been cultivated in Japan according to Western ideas, and it seems strange that it should not have taken a stronger hold upon so artistic a nation. Even at the present day, pianos are almost an innovation in a Japanese house, and the favourite instrument for ladies is a small three-stringed instrument called samisen. A superior one is the koto, and when two or three are played together the effect is very melodious. Occasionally teachers lead the singing of their pupils by playing on a small harmonium, and

they have been known to receive a musical certificate for doing so correctly with one finger. No doubt there is a good deal of latent talent, which will soon be developed. The Empress is taking a great deal of interest in music, especially at the Peeresses' School. The shaku-hachi, a flute made of bamboo, is by far the sweetest instrument in Japan, and I often heard it played with much feeling by wounded men. When hands linger lovingly over the keys of an instrument, they often interpret joys or sorrows lying deep in the inmost recesses of the heart, and one young officer at least had a soul for music. Captain Yashiro of the Asama, before joining his ship, was asked by a friend for a keepsake, and he handed him his flute, saying, "Into this I have breathed my spirit, and there can be no truer memento of me." He seems to have had two flutes, and to have taken one with him, because after the victory of Chemulpo he wrote as follows: "Just before the battle I took my lunch

leisurely, and, thinking that this might be the last opportunity, took out my shaku-hachi and played Chidori (The Sea-gulls), a favourite song of mine. At the passage where the birds are supposed to sing in praise to his Majesty, 'May the Emperor live eight thousand years,' my first officer came to me, and to my great joy said, 'Honourable commander, the ships of the enemy have appeared.' If by one chance in ten thousand my life is spared, I may once more play the shaku-hachi to you."

This was probably rather an exceptional case, and it will need a long course of training before music takes a prominent place in the country or appeals to the hearts of the people.

Part-singing is now being introduced into schools, but is practically unknown to the masses. Soldiers are stimulated to deeds of valour far more by the strange weird cry of Banzai! than by the sound of the bugles. When I played on the harmoniums in the hospitals, which I was often asked to do, the men would listen and be interested for a little time, and liked to hear their national tunes simply rendered; whereas if I mentioned the words Banzai Nippon, every face would light up with smiles.

Miss Sato and I both agreed that we would cut our tour short by two or three days, in order to reach Tokyo in time for Christmas; therefore the last place we stopped at was Nagoya. It was snowing fast when we arrived, and the train was late, so that it distressed me to find that six of the Red Cross ladies, including Marchioness

Tokugawa, President of the Society, and Mrs Fukararo. the Governor's wife. had been patiently waiting for two hours in a miserable room at the station. Tokugawas represent the most ancient family in Japan, and the Marchioness is a direct descendant of the Shoguns. they were in power the Emperor remained in strict privacy in his palace at Kyoto; his person was considered too sacred to be gazed upon, and even when he drove out he was hidden from public view behind silken curtains. The Shoguns directed the important affairs of state, living in oriental magnificence, and they had a much better time than the Emperor, who was quite inaccessible to his people, and was regarded by them as a god, enshrouded in veneration and mystery.

The next morning brilliant sunshine poured in at our windows, and the snow

lying on the roofs of the houses sparkled like powdered crystal.

Besides the main hospital, there were three divisions in the town, with accommodation for 5700 patients; and it was a long day's work to visit them all,from 9.30 A.M. to 4.30 P.M., with only half-an-hour's interval for lunch. The officers wore an embroidered cherryblossom on their kimonos as a distinguishing mark, instead of the usual double black lines or stars. Privates had long wires fixed to the head of their beds, surmounting which were coloured metal balls, a white one denoting "unable to walk," a red one, "can walk with a little help," and a yellow one, "convalescent." The grounds were unusually large, and contained some very fine trees, also masses of camellias, oleanders, and other flowering - shrubs. In the evening the Red Cross ladies gave me a small informal Japanese dinner, but on this occasion we all sat on chairs instead of on cushions. As usual, little boxes containing the remains of our dinners were sent to our rooms.

Next day we started on our return journey to Tokyo, and arrived there on the evening of December 23. I was sorry to part with Miss Sato. She was a charming companion, and, being able to speak English perfectly, interpreted and explained to me many points of etiquette which otherwise I should certainly have missed. It was a pleasant time to look back upon, and I felt very grateful to the officials and ladies who had taken so much trouble on our behalf, and had shown us so much hospitality in every town that we had visited.

The long siege of Port Arthur, which cost our gallant allies so many thousands of lives, was now drawing to a close.

There was not a heart in Japan that did not beat in sympathy with that fine commander, General Nogi, when the news arrived that his second son had been killed on the heights. Both his sons were worthy of their distinguished father, and have left names behind them which will never be forgotten, but always held in honoured remembrance by their descendants. Ensign Watanabe possesses a sword which is one of the heirlooms of the family of General Nogi. It had been handed down for generations, and was worn by the late Ensign Nogi, the elder son of the General, when he was killed in the battle of Nanshan. It came into his possession in this dramatic manner:-

"After the battle of Nanshan, hearing that Ensign Nogi was wounded, he hastened to where he was lying in the field-hospital. Concealing his emotion,

he asked the dying subaltern if there was any message for his family. 'I have nothing that I wish to say,' replied Nogi, 'for it is natural that a soldier should lose his life.' After a pause, he said that when he left Tokyo, his father, after drinking farewell, gave him the sword, a valuable heirloom, with the command to fight until it was broken, and to die for his country. It was his greatest regret that he was dying before testing the edge of the sword for a longer time; 'but,' continued the Ensign looking at Watanabe, 'I give it to you, and you shall enter the city of Port Arthur instead of myself. My soul is in the sword!' Shortly after the young soldier died with a smile on his face. Watanabe carried the body on his back to the summit of Nanshan, and there buried it. At the battle of Namakovama, Watanabe brandished the sword and cut down two Russians. During the fight he was wounded by seven rifle-bullets, and when in hospital was visited by the younger brother of Ensign Nogi, who burst into tears on hearing of the death of his elder brother. The younger Nogi said that he also had received a sword from his father, and was ready to die. A few weeks later he was killed at the battle of 203 Metre Hill." 1

¹ Japan Times.

NEW YEAR IN TOKYO.

It was on December 23 that I took up my quarters again in the Imperial Hotel, and Fusa, with his kuruma, met me, his face brimming over with smiles.

Christmas eve brought many recollections. As I sat over the fire in my comfortable room, visions passed before me of the conquering army gradually encircling the doomed city of Port Arthur, but I little thought that before long I should be privileged to visit the fortress, and be an eye-witness of places which will for ever be renowned in the pages of history. Then a feeling of heimweh came over me, as

I thought of the old home in Wales, of my children and their little ones, and of many dear friends.

> I seem to be at home again, With loved ones gathered by my side, And children nestling round the fire, This Christmastide.

> Those gone before, those living now, Enshrined within my heart abide, And pass before me, one by one, This Christmastide.

So I am not alone to-night, For thought has crossed the ocean wide, Bringing me near to home and friends This Christmastide.

Lady MacDonald kindly invited me to dine at the Legation on Christmas Day, where there was a large party of friends, and we all exchanged oldfashioned Christmas greetings with each other.

The following day I returned to

Shibuya, and as I passed through the large hall on my way to the officers' wards a feeling of peace came over me, and I was once more "at home" amongst the people I loved. All was going on as usual, except that some of the doctors had left for the front or had been appointed to hospital ships, and there were not nearly so many patients, as kakke had almost entirely died away with the advent of cold weather.

On December 30 Admiral Togo arrived in Tokyo, and received a most enthusiastic reception from the crowds who lined the streets, a roar of cheers and banzais passing down the lines as he drove through them. Everything was perfectly orderly, and there was very little pushing and shoving, as even amongst the working classes there is a spirit of consideration which prevents a

TOKYO EN FÊTE.

man from monopolising the best place, and leads him always, if possible, to make room for others. The whole city was en fête, and the day-fireworks were exceedingly pretty. There were balloon ships floating about in the air, with little sailors tumbling out of them and soon vanishing into space, and large balls which gradually opened out into huge vellow or red chrysanthemums. Every house was decorated with flags of the Rising Sun, and festoons of small balloons were often suspended the whole length of a street. The great Japanese festival of the New Year was approaching, and householders busily engaged in digging large holes in which to plant kadomatsu (pine-trees) from twelve to fourteen feet high. The Japanese consider the pine an emblem of steadfast endurance, because as its leaves never wither, so should a man

keep his courage and endurance even when the winds of adversity are blowing round him. The tree also represents longevity. Most of the doorways had thick bamboos planted on one side, which were bound round with thick foliage, a large tuft being tied on the top, which had a very pretty effect when waving to and fro in the wind. Underneath the rows of coloured lanterns ropes were suspended, with numerous hanging straws and slips of white paper attached to them. There is a deep meaning underlying this custom of a rope encircling the houses, which has reference to the following legend of the Sun Goddess.

Once upon a time the deities Izanagi and Izanami visited the earth, when the former plunged his spear into the sea, and as he withdrew it the falling drops formed an island, which they inhabited. Their first child, a daughter, was named

Amaterasu o mikami, or the Sun Goddess, and she was so beautiful that her father sent her back to heaven. A little later a son was born, who disgraced his family by his wild and lawless behaviour. One day he frightened his sister so much that she retired into a cave, blocking the entrance with a large stone. All the gods met in conclave to consider how they could get the beautiful goddess to leave her dark abode, and they decided to place a lookingglass in front of the cave while they all danced and sang. The Sun Goddess, with feminine curiosity, peeped out of her prison, and having caught a glimpse of herself in the looking-glass, was so struck by her own beauty that she ventured out a little farther. Immediately the god of Strength caught hold of her and dragged her out, while another placed a thick rope of twisted

straw behind, to prevent her slipping back again. She was then led in triumph to a palace, which was surrounded by another straw rope in order to keep her in safety and to protect her from evil. and the brother who had caused all this turmoil was banished. Afterwards the Sun Goddess had a son and grandson, and the latter decided to leave heaven and live upon earth. Before his departure she gave him a mirror, saying, "Look upon this mirror as my spirit; keep it in the same house and on the same floor with yourself, and worship it as if you were worshipping my actual presence." She also confided a large stone and a sword to his care with these words: "For centuries upon centuries shall thy followers rule this kingdom. Herewith receive from me the succession and the three crown talismans. Should you at any future time desire

to see me, look in this mirror. Govern this country with the pure lustre that radiates from its surface. Deal with thy subjects with the gentleness which the smooth rounding of the stone typifies. Combat the enemies of thy kingdom with this sword, and slay them on the edge of it." And so it came about that the grandson of the Sun Goddess dropped down from heaven into the beautiful land of Yamato, and became the ancestor of Jimmu Tenno, the first Emperor of Japan, whose spirit is still worshipped in many shrines. He came to the throne February 19, 660 B.C., and the present Emperor, who claims to be his direct successor, also bears the name of Tenno (Son of Heaven).

On New Year's eve, after hospital hours, I went in my kuruma through part of the city to watch the preparations for this season of typical Japanese life.

Many streets were lined with rows of containing every conceivable booths article, new and old. These fairs are a great feature in Japan, and the poorer classes make most of their purchases at them, a constant babble going on all the time. Towards the end of the year the stalls abound with cheap toys, made principally of tin, wood, and paper, and costing from three to five sen. Many of the booths are hung with lanterns, but others have glaring torches which give an uncertain and wavering light. The roads are thronged till nearly midnight, when the vendors pack up their stores in little hand-carts and take them home, to be kept till next fair day. Old curios can sometimes be found, but as a rule things are inexpensive and suited to the means of the people. Young girls linger with admiring eyes round booths containing ornamental hairpins and ribbons, while a little farther on hundreds of pipes appeal to the men and to the older women. China, shoes, flowers, vegetables, ironmongery, gold-fish in bowls, straw hats, glaring pictures, coloured post-cards, material for kimonos, &c., &c., may all be found in different quarters, the stalls at which they are sold being interspersed here and there with refreshment booths, where peanuts, chestnuts, strange and unattractive morsels of fish, and cakes of rice are supplied hot from portable stoves. It is a gay scene, and there is very little jostling and no rough conduct. When I got out of my kuruma and walked down the long lines with a friend, people only bowed and smiled if we chanced to knock up against one another. These fairs are one of the great sights of Japan, and a constant source of amusement to foreign visitors.

It was getting late when I reached the hotel after my interesting walk amongst the gay and laughing crowds, who seemed for a few short hours to have forgotten the tragedies of war. That night, thousands of wounded heroes were lying exposed to the icy winds which were blowing round the heights of Port Arthur. Such are the contrasts of life! Old Year, Good night!

During the festival of the New Year, which lasts three days, the whole nation seems to give itself up to merry-making. The streets were thronged with children playing battledore and shuttle-cock, parents and grandparents often joining in the fun, while tiny babies, warmly tucked up in the women's wadded kimonos, with woolly caps on their heads, watched the performances with their bright beady eyes.

The rejoicings were still in progress

when the glad news arrived of the surrender of Port Arthur,—a noble New
Year's gift from the army to its Imperial
Commander-in-Chief. What joy was depicted on every face when news came
that success had crowned the arms of
the victors, after so many months of
weary suspense! But the crowds that
thronged the streets were as orderly as
usual, though they tramped for hours in
lantern processions or remained in Hibuya Park, watching the fireworks and
illuminations.

Admiral Togo sent me a message saying that, on account of his heavy work, he could not spare time to call, and was shortly leaving the city, but that he would be glad to receive me at his own home. I found the great Admiral in a small Japanese house, simply furnished. He has a fine face, with a very earnest and determined ex-

pression, but it lighted up as he told me that some of his early boyhood had been spent on board an English ship. He spoke English well, but with an occasional slight hesitation, having had few opportunities of speaking it for some years. At the close of our interview an official arrived to talk over the proposed formation of a volunteer fleet; and wishing each other a friendly farewell, I passed out from the house of one of the greatest heroes of the present day. A few days later he left the city, his destination being kept in strictest secrecy.

The work at the hospital proceeded in its usual routine, but additional improvements were being made, and a magnificent recreation-room, the gift of Baron Iwasaki, one of the richest nobles in Japan, was being erected, as well as a new operating theatre with all the latest improvements.

AFTER the New Year's festivities were over, the Red Cross Society made me the offer of going to Hiroshima. This had long been my wish, but I feared I might not be considered experienced enough, as patients were received there straight from the hospital ships. I left Tokyo in January under the escort of Mr Masatake Togo, who was most attentive in arranging for my comfort. Baron Ozawa and Mr Nagasaki also were in the train; and although the journey took twenty-seven hours, it was not at all wearisome, for the line passed

for many hours along the shores of the Inland Sea.

On arriving at Hiroshima I received the usual kindly welcome at the station, and then went to a little hotel where two rooms were reserved for my use. These overlooked the river, along which barges and little boats were continually passing. Hoshino slept in a small anteroom, and when she was not waiting upon me spent most of her time sitting on her heels warming her little fingers over the hibachi, and smoking the most minute pipe I had ever seen, which she promptly hid under her feet whenever I appeared. She had learnt her broken English from foreigners, and one day, when I told her she had forgotten something, she replied, "I am a — fool," not being the least aware that she had said anything unusual.

There was no furniture except a

screen, a vase of flowers, and cushions; but the landlord kindly hunted up a bed, two or three tables, some chairs, and a cupboard—the wash-stand being in the balcony. It was a thoroughly Japanese hotel; and European cooking was a great difficulty, and not very satisfactory.

Hiroshima is prettily situated about two miles from the harbour of Ujina, where patients arrived from the front. My first acquaintances were General Manabe, Commander of the Fifth Division; the Governor of the city; the Mayor; Dr Onishi, the head surgeon; and the son of our President, Count Matsukata, who spoke English perfectly, and was most kind in interpreting and rendering me every assistance while I was in the city.

Evidences of the war were not wanting in Hiroshima. The streets were crowded

with troops, thousands remaining for a few days before embarking. The tramp of armed men was continually heard, and the roads were sometimes so blocked that it was difficult for a kuruma to pass. Every available corner was occupied, and without the order of General Manabe I could not have retained my rooms in the hotel. Soldiers were quartered on the inhabitants, who put empty rooms at their disposal, and supplied them with rice, and occasionally with all their rations. One portion of Baron Ueda's beautiful house had been set apart for their use, and part of the verandah was often piled up with knapsacks and accoutrements.

The men were on the whole very well behaved. When Japanese recruits enter the army they are given a definite moral code, which of its kind is equal to the finest ethical standard. Its pre-

cepts are drilled into every soldier; they are put up in the barracks, learnt by heart, and lectured on by officers and Buddhist priests. Each man has them written in a little black pocketbook, in which a record is also kept of his previous life, of every reward or punishment, and of every event in his military career, the war items being entered in red ink. This record is one of his most important possessions, and when he leaves the army a copy of it is kept at the local Government offices. No man can enter the service if he has been convicted and sentenced for a major offence; and if anything of minor degree is known against him, he is carefully watched and disciplined.

Many of the officers take a conscientious, individual interest in the men under them, even taking the trouble to get special information about their cir-

cumstances, reputation, &c .- from their own towns and villages. They often become wonderfully quick at reading a man's character accurately. After short period of this discipline and training, country lads who have lived slow quiet lives, cutting grass in the mountains and spending day after day in agricultural pursuits, become bright intelligent soldiers. It seems a pity that rough lads (or hooligans) who are a terror to the respectable citizens of many of the large towns in Europe, cannot be draughted into the army for a time, and so be saved from a career of vice and crime. Their very recklessness and high spirits might form splendid material for recruits. I often wish that a systematic scheme could be set afoot to give a chance of reform to boys in their teens who have been convicted once.

In Japan, men are liable for military service between the ages of seventeen and forty, and in 1901 the number of those who could be called out was 539,282. The minimum height for admission was fixed at 4 feet 11 inches previously to 1904, when it was reduced to 4 feet 9 inches. The pay is as follows:—

1st class, 18 yen a-year. 2nd class, 14 yen 40 sen a-year. 3rd class, 10 yen 80 sen a-year.

If a soldier is killed in battle or on duty, his widow and orphans receive a pension of from fifteen to thirty yen yearly. At first sight the pay appears to be inadequate; but it must be taken into consideration that the expense of living in Japan is very low compared to other countries. Rice is the staple food of the poorer classes, and it must be

wonderfully nutritious, for it is often only supplemented by bean soup, dried fish, vegetables, edible roots, and pickles. The contents of the houses also are very inexpensive; a hand-cart can easily convey the whole of them from one place to another. Warm clothing is only required for a few weeks during the brief but bitter winter which lasts about three months. During the summer, workmen often wear only a loin-cloth, although in the cities they have been prohibited from walking about the streets this cool and airy costume. The dress of the women consists of calico undergarments and striped cotton kimonos, costing only a few sen, while the thick wadded kimonos used in winter often last a lifetime. Children run about in one loose garment, and their sturdy little limbs are hardened by constant exposure to sun and air.

The hospitals in Hiroshima consisted of one main building and seven divisions, with accommodation for 12,000 patients. Cases were to a certain extent classified and distributed over the different divisions, one of which was reserved entirely for infectious diseases, including enteric, dysentery, &c., another for medical cases, and another chiefly for injuries to the eyes, where experienced oculists attended. Many thousands of sick and wounded had passed through these hospitals by the end of 1904, and at that date there had been 295 deaths.

I was appointed to help in the main hospital, which was reserved for officers and for some of the most serious cases amongst wounded privates. It is situated near the outskirts of the town, and has a beautiful garden full of flowers, fruit-trees, and shrubs. Dr Tanaka (who speaks German perfectly) received



Miss Nakamura, head nurse in charge of three of the privates' wards. She and Miss Kinoshita took me at once under their care and direction, and were amongst my kindest friends during the time I stayed at Hiroshima. The officials gave me the use of a little room off the wards, and put in some dwarf trees and flowers to make it pretty.

The hospital was not quite full, as the heavy fighting in the spring had only just commenced, and patients from the front had not yet arrived in any great numbers. Some of those who had lately come in were, however, very severely wounded: one of them lay dying in a small room opening out of the ward, having lost a leg, besides being badly wounded in the head. Others seemed to be living through

almost incredible injuries, and I wondered whether a European could possibly have survived them. There was not much to do in the way of amusing the patients; they were mostly too ill, and required quiet and the greatest attention. As usual, I had messages from the officers who could speak a foreign language asking me to visit them, and in my spare time I found many of them anxious to improve their English by reading and conversation.

After a few days Dr Onishi proposed that I should spend half my day in No 1 Divisional Hospital (which was situated close by), where there were 1400 patients and consequently a great deal more work to do. Dr Shimakata was pleased to have my help, as well as Mrs Okuda, one of the head nurses and wife of an officer at the front. There were two men in one of the

small wards both of whom had been injured in the spine, and would never be able to walk again. One of them was paralysed, both legs from his hips downwards being affected. He was constantly watched by his young wife, who sat on the floor by his bedside for hours at a time. He was beginning to realise his sad condition, and was very low and depressed; but before long death relieved him of his sufferings. The other was a lad of twenty-three, and one day while I was holding him during the dressing of his wounds he seemed hardly able to bear the pain, but though his eyes were full of tears he turned to me afterwards with a grateful smile. It was sad to think of so many brave men returning crippled and helpless to their homes-many of them very young, with vigorous constitutions.

I found Hiroshima most interesting.

It is a large city with very few foreigners, except some Americans engaged in teaching and in mission work. The English colony consists of one chaplain, and a lady missionary working under the Church Missionary Society. I was much struck at finding a perfect tolerance as regarded religious opinions, both here and in all the large towns of Japan. Missionaries were cordially welcomed in the hospitals, and the authorities often allowed them free access, even when other visitors were excluded. They cheered the patients, who liked being talked to, and gladly received little gifts of books and pamphlets.

On several occasions I was asked by officers to explain the Bible and the rudiments of the Christian religion. After the first conversation I usually waited till they asked me again, so as to make sure that it was acceptable. They had no

reticence about the subject before their companions, and on one occasion I was amused by a man patting his fellow officer on the back, and saying with a merry laugh, "Here is a good Christian." And although Christianity has not made much way in a great many country districts, yet there seems to be a general feeling of interest in it, and an inquiring spirit amongst the people. It was a great encouragement when the Emperor, early in 1905, presented the munificent sum of 10,000 yen to the Young Men's Christian Association, as a mark of his appreciation of the services it was rendering to his soldiers at the front. The work appears to have been carried on with great tact, and every facility has been granted to its members both in Korea and in Manchuria. Soldiers who were not desirous of being instructed shared the same privileges and received as much

attention as those who were "seekers after knowledge." They greatly valued the opportunities given them of writing letters to their friends; also the quiet rooms for games and reading; and often men who were slightly wounded would come to be shaved and to be helped in bathing, kind attendants being always in readiness.

The Episcopal Churches of England and America are combined under the name of "The Holy Catholic Church of Japan," and are represented by 6 bishops and 117 clergy, 53 of whom are Japanese. It is hoped that before long there will be sufficient funds to support a native bishop. At the end of the year 1903, 12,102 baptised persons were on the roll, and 5985 communicants; the number of church buildings, including mission rooms, being 137. The services at Hiroshima are held in a small Japanese house, and

a church is greatly needed, but as the congregation is not a rich one the members can only contribute very small sums. In order to accomplish their much-desired object, they have given up having tea and cakes at the weekly prayer-meeting, and they put the money thus saved into the building fund, which at present barely reaches £50. The sum of £2000 is required for the purchase of a site, and for the erection of a church and adjoining mission-room.

The winter happened to be exceptionally late, and in February the weather became bitterly cold, with constant heavy snow-storms. The hotel was being partially pulled down for rebuilding, and my rooms were exposed to the piercing winds till evening, when amado (rain-doors) were slid into position round the balcony, which overlooked the river. For several days I noticed a policeman sitting near my rooms

after dark, and on inquiry found that the head constable had kindly appointed him as guard through the night, and he remained on duty during the two months that I spent in the hotel. Some of the customs were still very primitive; for instance, there was a town-crier who rang a bell and shouted out notices in the same way as was formerly done in England. Watchmen made their nightly rounds, sounding wooden clappers in order to let thieves know they were coming. One morning a country lad pushed aside one of the sliding partitions in the walls and came into my room while I was doing my hair. Thinking he had brought a message or letter I asked Hoshino to inquire, but he only replied, "I have come to have a look at the foreign lady." After a good laugh at his expense, we showed him out of the door with many bows.

There appeared to be an enormous number of schools in Hiroshima, although I was told that primary education was only introduced into Japan about fifty years ago. The Higher Normal School was opened in 1902. To a great extent European and American models have been followed, and the Japanese have adopted a great many of their methods, and with their marvellous facility for picking the brains of other nations and utilising their knowledge, the schools throughout the country are worked on an excellent system. The full course of instruction lasts for eight years. Children of all classes often attend the same schools. After fifty minutes of consecutive study they are allowed ten minutes for recreation, which they are expected to employ in gymnastics or games. Corporal punishment is unknown, the highest form of disgrace being temporary expulsion.

In the case of the leisured classes, a child enters a primary school at six years of age; six years afterwards (at twelve) he enters a middle school; five years afterwards (at seventeen) he enters a higher school; three years after he enters a university, and in three or four years he graduates (at twenty-three or twenty-four). Great attention is paid to physical as well as to mental development: one hour daily is devoted to drill, for which the Government supplies rifles. Sometimes students are sent off in large parties to visit different places of interest in the neighbourhood under the charge of teachers, who take every opportunity of instructing them during the holiday. They often walk many miles, and return with minds and bodies refreshed, having thus received new ideas and information without any strain or exertion.

Later I had an opportunity of visiting the Military Academy for Cadets at Tokyo; arrangements for my doing so having being kindly made by Lieutenant Shimidzou, one of the instructors, who had been wounded at the battle of Nanshan and had spent some time in Shibuya hospital. I was much struck by the attention paid to health, the rooms for study being large and airy, with long windows wide open on each side. The arrangements for gymnastics in the spacious parade-ground were most elaborate, officers acting as instructors for vaulting and trapeze exercises out of school hours. Jujitsu and fencing were practised in a covered hall. age of the scholars varied from fourteen to twenty, and the majority appeared to be somewhat taller than ordinary Japanese, and well set up and finely developed lads.

Military ardour is encouraged from the earliest age. I have often seen little fellows about six or seven years old marching in line with wooden swords and toy caps, one of their number being appointed as officer, and giving the word of command in shrill treble voice. Thus the Samurai spirit is fostered amongst Japanese boys, who from childhood are taught that the highest honour they can attain is to fight for their country and die for their Emperor.

School-time is one of the happiest eras in a boy's life, and when he reaches his teens he will often attend evening classes after his regular hours of work. Students are gradually adopting the European style of dress, and wear neat blue serge suits and peaked caps, the loose and comfortable kimono being gradually superseded. In the country, people usually tuck the latter up to

their waists in wet weather, and stump along on geta,—high wooden clogs raised about three inches from the ground. I heard of a lad of frugal mind who, finding that it was raining heavily one day when he came out of school, took off his trousers, and hanging them over his arm walked home in his shirt. As bare legs and scanty clothing are the rule and not the exception in Japan, it would not have occurred to any one except a European that it was a little odd.

Education for girls suffered a check for some time. When it first became general, the girls were not content to lead a stay-at-home life, and liked more freedom; and consequently many parents disapproved of the American methods. It also became unpopular, because boy students were taught side-by-side with girls, which was quite against the Japanese ideas of propriety. The education of

women was therefore thrown back for about twenty years; but later, in the present era of *Meiji* (enlightenment time), higher education again came to the front under a different system—women teachers being employed, and native manners and customs preserved. Technical knowledge has been gradually introduced into schools, and girls are now being educated according to the best methods of modern times.

It is earnestly to be hoped that the good sense of the people will prevent them from copying the vices of the West, and that, as they press on to higher civilisation, they will learn to refuse the evil and choose the good. It is much to be deplored that beer-halls are already springing up in the larger cities, for although it is not unusual for sake to be drunk to excess in private houses, it has not the deleterious effect of the adulter-

ated wines and fiery spirits which are sold in the public-houses in Europe.

Every morning on my way to the hospital I passed the parade ground where numerous manœuvres were going on, and often there were such large numbers of troops that they presented the appearance of a small review. I frequently passed my kind friend General Manabe looking very soldierly and smart on a fine bay horse. A stiff and punctilious soldier on parade, he was the most genial host in his own house, when he would break into the cheeriest of laughs at our inability to understand each other, unless his daughter, who knew English well, was at hand to interpret.

There was a large vacant space near our hospital where recruits might always be seen busily digging trenches, raising miniature fortifications, scaling high walls, and taking jumps. One portion was reserved for riding, and the men had to hold their hands behind their backs and learn to balance themselves on their horses, while they cantered round in circus fashion. They were constantly rolling off, much to the amusement of the little crowd of spectators who were always to be seen watching the proceedings with the greatest interest.

Several of the officers whom I had known at Tokyo came to see me on their way through to the front, as keen as ever for the battlefield; and I could not help wondering whether I should ever see my little friends again. One of them, Lieutenant Tsunoda, had been appointed adjutant to the 17th Infantry Brigade. I hardly recognised him, he looked so smart in his uniform, and so different from the patient I had known in white kimono and slippers. We were

both sorry to say good-bye. I gave him some advice about taking care of his health, and not running unnecessary risks, but although he listened attentively I don't suppose he paid any attention to it afterwards. He was simply bubbling over with joy at the prospect of having another brush with the enemy.

I often received letters from officers who had been at Shibuya, and valued them the more because they were written in rather broken English, showing that they were their own original composition. They often addressed me as "Sir," for they have only one word in Japanese to express "Mr," "Mrs," or "Miss," San being the honorific title affixed to the names of persons and sometimes of things. It is the ordinary contraction of the original word Sama, and is used as follows: Danna San, the

master; Anata San, you (polite colloquial); Tenshi San, the Emperor.

It may interest my readers to see two of the letters which I received at this time.

> TORYO RED CROSS HOSPITAL, Feb. 14th, 1905.

Dear Sir,—I have been long silence since you leave Tokyo Red Cross Hospital, on the day you are visiting our Hospital every day I get your kindness. Sometimes carrying my bed-car or renewing my bandage for wound, I thank you heartily for your earnest kindness, sympathy with our wounded soldier. I felt very sorry when you see me last to say good-bye as if I lost my dear mama, but soon I take my courage glading that other wounded soldier at Hiroshima are getting new kind mother. Now I am glad to tell you that my

wounded foot getting very well almost recovering, now and than I can walk scarcely by double cane. I am praying your god health and hoping other day's meeting.—Your's very truly,

CAPTAIN T. S.

I beg pardon following my letter's mistake.

13th May 1905. HIROSAKI.

My Dear Mother,—I am heard that you are go to Port Arthur and Tairon. I am sent to Hirosaki from Tokyo that was at 13th last month. At Hirosaki was good seasen, plum and cherry flawers blossimed. I was seen Mr T. in the Shibuya Hospital. He is healthy body. I am good better than at Hiroshima. I supposed you will returned at any time to your home. I hope you will be arrived at your country.

In the end I thanks for your kindness.

I am pray to God for your fortune.—

Your remain, your's trully, R. S.

By the middle of February numbers of wounded had arrived. The fighting in Manchuria was getting very heavy, culminating in March with the terrible battle of Mukden, probably one of the bloodiest ever recorded in the annals of history. Our original patients were sent off to hospitals in other towns as soon as they were able to travel, in order to make room for the large number of new-comers. Again long lines of stretchers and kurumas brought worn and weather-beaten men from Ujina to the hospitals. Some were in clean white kimonos; but probably the supply had run short, for many arrived in their stained uniforms, and seemed very glad to have them removed and to find

themselves in the little wooden beds with clean white linen, and surrounded with comfort and care.

More than half were suffering from frost - bite, several having lost hands and both feet. Usually when they arrived the extremities were quite black, and being entirely lifeless there was no pain until the flesh had nearly sloughed off, after which the bones were amputated. When gangrene sets in. a line of demarcation forms, evidenced by inflammation in the contiguous living tissues, and then a division (i.e., ulceration) from the living flesh is clearly perceptible, resulting eventually in the separation of the dead tissues. After operations, wounds usually healed very quickly, but the dressings caused terrible sufferings when, as sometimes happened, two or three limbs required daily attention. It is generally supposed that frost-bite has a very depressing effect, but our men were always patient and gentle, and never murmured at the sad prospect before them. Often a wife or parents would come for two or three—days, bringing their own food with them, and would remain for hours by the bedside of the patients, no restrictions being enforced on these occasions.

Every day many hours had to be spent in attending to surgical dressings, and it was often pitiful to hear their moans and to see such suffering, strong men writhing in agony, and deep sighs breaking from their burdened hearts. By this time I knew how much these gallant men could suffer in silence, so it made one's heart ache to think what they were undergoing. But there was no time to give way to useless regrets, as the dear lads needed constant attention in their helpless condition.

One young soldier who died in our ward had been shot through the lungs, and his laboured breath became more and more feeble till he was too weak and it ceased altogether. He was the only son of his mother, who arrived just in time to see him die. She watched by his side till the bearers came to carry him out, and then collected his little treasures, folding them up in a handkerchief. I longed to comfort her, and as we clasped hands, East and West seemed to be united in a common bond of sympathy, for I too had lost a soldier son. She spoke a few words of thanks and tried to smile through her tears, for she was proud that her son had won an honourable name and had brought credit to the ancestors of the family. Then bowing her farewell to the nurses, she passed out of the hospital to her desolate home.

No one could fail to get deeply attached to these brave men as they lay quietly and patiently in their little beds, often suffering tortures from blindness, amputations, and lacerated wounds in all parts of their bodies, but responding to their nurses with smiles. One of them remained face downwards for weeks on account of a severe spine injury, in addition to which all his fingers, with the exception of two, and a greater part of his feet, had been amputated from frostbite. He would never walk again, as his limbs were paralysed, but when he got stronger he would always give me a bright welcome, and would try to hold illustrated papers in his poor mutilated hands. Another lad had lost both his eyes and both feet.

One of the young officers, who spoke very good English, soon got well enough to appreciate a visit in the day. He

had been obliged to have two operations on his hands, only the thumbs being left, and had lost part of his feet, but when he could hobble about a little on his crutches he said to me one day, "If only I could rejoin my regiment I should be happy." Another who had been for many long weeks in the hospital with both legs badly wounded was usually quite cheerful, but one day when speaking about Port Arthur he said, "Sometimes I feel as if I did not care to live, for nearly all the men in my Company were killed, and only I and one other officer have been left." I shall never forget his joy when the dressings and bandages were removed and he was allowed to have massage and to walk about the grounds. His legs were very weak and tottering at first, but he soon regained his strength, and then began to count the days when

he thought he would be able to fight again. This was how he calculated: "One leg will be well in a fortnight, the other two or three weeks later, then I shall be sent to Atami (the hot springs), and on my return I shall once more be a sound man." His intense desire to get well was granted, and the following May he passed through Hiroshima, full of health and spirits, on his way to Manchuria.

My time was now spent wholly in the main hospital, where all the beds were occupied, and every day worn and weather-beaten men arrived from the ships, often but shadows of their former selves. Our wards were full of the most pitiable cases, and often nurses would be called to a bedside by low cries of Itai, itai (pain). Occasionally a delirious patient would be moved into one of the little single wards attached to the build-

ing, so that he should not disturb the others. One morning when I arrived I found that two deaths had occurred in our ward, but considering the serious nature of the wounds the total number of deaths was wonderfully small. of the most interesting cases was that of Yokoyama, who, when he arrived, was worn almost to a skeleton. He had an amputated leg, and at first was so weak that he lay for days merely taking food, and scarcely noticing his surroundings. But his constitution was gradually being built up by quantities of nourishing food; little by little a slight improvement was perceptible, and occasionally a would pass over his poor wan face, and he would murmur a few words. The improvement continued, and when I saw him for the last time in June he had gained many pounds in weight, and was on a fair way to convalescence.

In the case of another patient, a bullet had passed through the back of his eyes and he had entirely lost his sight, besides having had all his toes amputated; but he never complained, and lay patiently through the long hours, smiling whenever he was spoken to. It was hardly possible to realise what the contrast must have been to these brave lads after the excitement of battle, when they found themselves lying helpless in hospital. Possibly some who were in a semi-conscious state would be fighting the enemy over again, and others would be passing through a mystery of fear, as the throbbing of their aching wounds reminded them that life with its activity and possibilities was a closed book to them, and they must remain for ever maimed and crippled. But if anything could make the convalescents forget their troubles, it was the bright atmosphere

with which they were surrounded,—the doctors with their kind and encouraging words, the smiling and attentive nurses, the spotlessly clean wards with their big vases of flowers, all helping to alleviate their troubles. Those who were getting better would cluster round the hibachis, sometimes hopping on one leg with the help of crutches, and chatting with their comrades. They seemed to be very fond of "Nestlé's Food," which could be bought at the canteen, where large piles of tins were kept in store. In every hospital that I visited quantities of this food were used, and the good old brand met one's eye at every turn.

The patients took a great pride in having their hands and nails well kept: their little-finger nails were sometimes allowed to grow about half an inch in length, which I did not at all admire,

but it took many requests and dozo ("please") before they would allow me to snip off the cherished ornament. They all had one or two thin little cotton towels, and when being washed in bed, these were first soaped and then wrung out and used for drying. It was considered very odd when I hunted up dry ones from the store cupboard, and they seemed greatly amused, probably saying, "It is only one of the funny ways of our foreign nurse"; so afterwards I followed the usual custom and used the little damp rag, to their great satisfaction.

In spite of the bitter winds that blew piercingly during February and March, and the cold of this late winter, the plum-trees pushed out masses of rosy bloom. The patients liked having large branches in their rooms, but it was a still greater pleasure when the cherry-trees

blossomed. The Japanese quite adore their national flower; but it is only short-lived, the flowers hanging for a few days upon the trees, then turning a delicate pink and falling to the ground in showers. The perfume is faint but very sweet. Cherry-blossom is considered the emblem of a soldier, because as it falls before it is withered, so he often dies for his country in the prime of life.

During March many officers arrived at our hospital, which was the only one reserved for their accommodation. Privates had to be removed from two of our wards to make room for them, and seemed very sorry to leave the surroundings to which they were accustomed. Okada, who required a great deal of attention, as his wounds caused him much suffering, was in a very feeble condition, and cried bitterly at saying good-bye—a most unusual thing for a Japanese. However,

our old friends had only been moved into a large ward in the next block, so I could sometimes go and visit them. A few of those who left were sadly disfigured with face wounds, and occasionally, owing to injuries to the throat or jaw, had to be fed through a tube.

Operations and dressings were at first attended to at different times in one operating-room, but in March the work was so great that another room was erected. Five patients used to be brought in at a time on stretchers and laid on the tables, besides which a large number of those who could walk sat round the wall on benches, waiting to have their injuries attended to. Wadding which had been used was thrown into a large receptacle, and then taken out and washed in a laundry set apart for the purpose. Afterwards it had to be picked over by the nurses, who used

it for many purposes in the wards. Bandages were also washed and disinfected, and made to do service on future occasions.

Sometimes entertainments were given, the most popular one being story-telling; and when a professional came into one of the wards it was always crowded with listeners.

In the middle of March I was kept indoors for two days with a bad cold, and as the servants did not understand foreign cooking, Miss Bosanquet kindly carried me and my belongings off to her house, which is charmingly situated in the centre of the town. A quaint black kitten was running about with a joint in the middle of its short tail, so that it hung dejectedly on one side. All the pussies in Japan are born with this curious joint, or else without any tails at all. Hoshino, my maid, broke down

altogether, and had to return to Tokyo. She used to lie on the floor most of the day covered with warm futons, or would cower over the hibachi, piling it up with minute pieces of charcoal, which usually tumbled down after reaching a certain height, when she patiently began her work all over again, with a pair of tiny tongs not much larger than chopsticks.

In April, on my return from a visit to Miyajima, which I shall describe in the next chapter, a case of plague, which proved fatal, was reported at No. 6 Division. It was supposed that it was brought from China. The medical authorities, who are always prepared for any emergency, took such stringent measures that it did not spread any farther.

One of our wounded boys was much weaker, and had been slowly dying for some days: at times he became delirious

and moaned sadly, but when he recognised me a smile would pass over his face as he took my hands in his, and put them to his aching head. He gradually lapsed into longer spells of unconsciousness, and two days later passed away, another honourable instance of a soldier who had given his life for the Fatherland.

Towards the end of the month the ladies in Hiroshima were busy making and filling comfort bags for the soldiers at the front. Each lady provided a certain number, and as soon as one was completed the name of the donor was written on the little yellow bag and it was forwarded to headquarters. They were all about the same size, eight to ten inches long, and those which we sent had the following contents: two cotton towels, a cake of soap, toothbrush, fan, needles and cotton, post-cards ready

stamped, a roll of writing-paper and envelopes, a box of cigarettes or pipe and tobacco, a box of sweets, and some little books and leaflets. As summer was approaching, warm socks and knitted helmets, which used to be included in winter-time, were not needed. The bags seemed rarely to go astray, and gave great pleasure to the recipients, who frequently acknowledged them. The following is the translation of a Japanese letter which I received:—

AT THE FRONT, June 10, 1905.

MADAM, — In spite of the burning weather I trust you are quite well. I am glad to say that I am doing well ever since I was sent to the Front. Recently we received "comfort bags" presented by ladies. On their being distributed among us, I had the good fortune to receive one sent by you. The

bag contains not only very many necessary things, but even luxuries. I do not know how to express my sincere thanks for the gift, coming as it does from a lady of our allied country. My words are poor, but pray accept my heartfelt appreciation of your present. — I am, Madam, yours truly,

(Sub-Lieut.) Fukahachi Matsuo.

Three of our Japanese friends helped to pack the bags, and I became very fond of the trio. They could all speak English a little, and came two or three times a-week in the evening to see me, and did their utmost to make my time pass pleasantly. Ladies all look so dainty in their national dress that I felt it would be a great pity if it is ever discarded. "How charming it is to see a bevy of them dressed in a symphony of greys and browns, and other delicate

hues of silk and brocade, the faultless costume being matched by the simple manners and musical voices of the wearers." Little children are put into the brightest of colours, and on a holiday it is a pretty sight to see them toddling along at their mother's side.

Ladies wear very little jewellery, but occasionally a handsome clasp or slide holds the ribbon that confines the obi (sash), and the brocades for kimonos and obis are often very rich. Sometimes they cost as much as 200 yen. The costume must be very comfortable, especially in hot weather, when they wear tabi reaching to the ankle, with one division for the big toe.

Zori, sandals with thick straw soles and ornamental straps, are worn out of doors in summer; and geta, high wooden clogs, in wet weather keep the wearers

^{1 &#}x27;Things Japanese,' Chamberlain.

out of the mud. It is still customary in many country places for married women to blacken their teeth, and to shave their eyebrows and the soft down on their faces. Widows often shave their heads as well, and one can hardly believe that the old women, who make themselves look as repulsive as possible, could ever have been pretty laughing young girls priding themselves on the luxuriance of their hair and wearing ornamental pins to keep it in position. Their elaborate coiffure gives a great deal of trouble. The hair is often only dressed once aweek, after which they have to sleep on a hard wooden pillow, which fits into the nape of the neck, and prevents the hair from getting untidy.

It was interesting to hear about the superstitions that are still in vogue amongst many of the inhabitants. They remind one to some extent of those believed in throughout Europe in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Although there is no punishment for alleged witches in Japan, the belief in demoniacal possession has by no means disappeared, and it is not uncommon for a person to imagine that he is possessed by a fox or a badger,—these two beasts having superhuman powers ascribed to them. In many of the temples fox-images may be found, and sometimes food is offered at their shrines. When a person believes that he is possessed by a fox, it can usually be exorcised by a priest.

According to Lafcadio Hearn, wrestlers, as a class, boast of their immunity from fox-possession, and care neither for kitsune-mochi (fox-possessors) nor for their spectral friends. Very strong men are believed to be proof against all such goblins. Foxes are said to be

afraid of them, and instances are cited of the possessing fox declaring, "I wished to enter into your brother but he was too strong for me, so I have entered into you, as I am resolved to be revenged upon some of your family."

The following is a true story: There is a small inn in Hiroshima kept by a middle-aged couple. One day the wife returned home in great trouble, saying that she was possessed by a badger. On being told that the priest could exorcise it, she replied, "No, it is impossible, for the badger is dead; so his spirit cannot return, and he will always be with me." She became very melancholy, and her friends persuaded her to consult a priest; so she went to a famous temple, some miles distant. The priest told her that if she would give a sum of money to build a shrine, the badger's spirit would leave her and

dwell there, but that once a-year she must come and worship at the shrine, in order to propitiate the evil spirit. She followed his advice and returned home cured, and for several years visited and worshipped at the shrine. In course of time the husband became a Christian, and he tried to persuade his wife not to trouble any more about the badger. When the war began, she made arrangements to put up a hundred soldiers in the little inn. Being so busy, she had no time to think about the badger, and finding that no harm came to her from neglecting her halfyearly visits, she decided to discontinue them altogether. Her husband said one day with a laugh, "I hear that many people visit the shrine, but they don't know they are worshipping my wife's old badger."

These strange beliefs, however, Laf-

cadio Hearn adds, are quickly passing away, and year by year the statuaries make fewer images of foxes and badgers. Victims of fox-possession are taken much less frequently to the hospitals, to be treated according to the best scientific methods by Japanese physicians. Mischievous children often break the noses of fox-gods with impunity, and as education becomes more general, the old medieval superstitions will gradually pass into oblivion.

MIYAJIMA—AN INTERLUDE.

On April 13, after nearly three months of steady work, I took my first holiday, and spent one night with Miss Bosanquet in the island of Miyajima (Temple Island), which the Japanese consider one of the three most beautiful places in Japan. We travelled one hour by train, and then, instead of crossing in the little passenger steamer, were rowed across in a sampan (boat). It was a perfect day in early spring, and the high mountains, covered with pines, were reflected in the We had planned a quiet and water. private visit, but the chief Shinto priest, Maneo Kiso, hearing I had arrived, came

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forward and did the honours of the place. He is a handsome man, and tall for a Japanese—about 5 feet 4 inches. wore a long white kimono, and sandals on his bare feet. We were very pleased to have him as our guide, and he conducted us over the wonderful temple, part of which is built on pillars in the sea, so that at high tide it looks as if it were floating on the water. The repairs which were going on will not be completed for seven years. The bright red paint is the rich colour usually used in lacquer, and is very effective when seen at a dis-The temple was built in the tance. year 593 A.D., and the treasure-room contains fine specimens of armour, ancient paintings, kakemonos, documents, &c., which date from the sixth century.

We saw a sacred dance—graceful posturing and movements—given by two children in honour of the deities. They

were dressed in white gauze over rosecolour and long-trailing crimson skirts, and each held a bunch of bells in her hands. Eight girls, between the ages of eight and fifteen, are appointed to the temple, and dance frequently during the day, two at a time, except at festivals, when they all appear. They attend school in turns, and are not held by any restrictions after they leave the temple. Kneeling in front of the shrine were several worshippers, who frequently clapped their hands in order to call the attention of the gods; and the priest passed a bunch of notched papers over their heads as a sign of blessing. These are supposed to bring the worshippers in communication with the god they are addressing, and they are often hung on trees near a temple, as offerings, and sometimes laid in front of the altar.

Just as we were leaving, a message

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came from Baron Asano, the hon. chief priest, asking us to tea. He is apparently a person of great importance, and his wife is a daughter of Prince Daigo. He received us very cordially in a room at the back of the temple, and gave us two little gods of goodfortune, carved out of camphor wood. The sweetmeats and cakes were exceptionally good.

Afterwards Maneo Kiso conducted us to a Buddhist temple, where an old priest again gave us tea in tiny cups. On the way numbers of tame deer came to eat out of our hands. They are never killed, and are allowed to wander wherever they like, and as no dogs are allowed on the island nothing disturbs their happy existence. Flocks of pigeons were flying round the small courtyard of the temple, and fluttered on to our hands and shoulders for grain.

On our return we saw the sacred horse, who is daily led out for exercise, and used in processions at the great festivals. It is said that whatever colour the horse may have been originally, he will turn white in a few months. He is able to put his head out of his shed to reach a trough where he is fed with beans, and the country people often take one home, thinking that it will bring them luck.

Nearer the town there is a smaller temple, and adjoining it is a large hall containing a thousand mats. The heavy pillars inside are hung round with wooden spoons, or more properly rice ladles, which have been placed within encircling cords. The words meshi toru has two meanings, "eating rice" and "victory," and about 60,000 of these spoons were first hung up by soldiers on their way to China in 1894. Dur-

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ing this last war friends had written the names of soldiers on the bowls of the ladles, and also the words "Pray for victory," and had then hung them up on one of the pillars. Pilgrims had come from long distances to hang them up, the number amounting to about 100,000. The spoons could be bought for two or three sen apiece in different sizes at a long stall inside the temple. After some time they will be stored away in wooden boxes.

The setting sun was now lighting up the distant hills, the evening air was redolent with sweet scents, and fishermen were returning home laden with the spoils of the sea. As we paused at the foot of the hill leading to the little town, an air of romance seemed to surround the lovely island, which at this time of year is clothed with a wealth of cherry- and peach-blossom,

the brilliant rose colour of the latter standing out in vivid contrast against the sombre firs which clothe the mountains right up to the summit.

As might be expected, there are many ancient legends associated with this romantic spot. It is said, for example, that the mountains are inhabited by tengu, creatures half men and half birds, and that the first time a man ascended the highest mountain, which is considered sacred, they threw him over the precipice. Another legend is that a few years ago, because wood had been taken from the island to build a Government house at Hiroshima, the tengu went over one night and destroyed it.

The dense forests have in many places been left quite undisturbed, and are frequented by wild boar, wild cats, and deer. Some years ago monkeys were found, but they have now disappeared. Nothing seems to disturb the serenity of this lovely island. Even kurumas are prohibited. Until quite recently, care was taken to prevent the occurrence of births or deaths on the island. Although the law has now been relaxed, it is no unusual thing to see a procession of boats bearing the dead to their last resting-place on the mainland.

Our rooms overlooked a small wood containing many maples with the tender tints of early spring, and moss ferns covered the steep banks which surrounded a small valley, where a sparkling stream babbled over large rocks and stones. I fell asleep on soft futons to the sound of a dripping fountain in the little courtyard outside my room, and to the soft tinkling of the geisha's samisen.

We left Miyajima the following morning at 7.40 for Hiroshima, so I was able to spend part of the day at the hospital.

PORT ARTHUR, AND THE HOSPITAL SHIPS.

AFTER the battle of Mukden, with all the horrors which it entailed, there was a cessation of hostilities for a time, and therefore a steady diminution in the number of patients after the middle of April. I had already outstayed the year which I had intended spending in the hospitals, and decided to return to England in July. Before I left Hiroshima the Minister of War, through the kind offices of the Red Cross Society, gave me permission to spend a few days at Port Arthur, going and returning in hospital ships.

When I left Ujina on April 27 I found that my comfort had been provided for in every possible way. Ozawa, Vice-President of the Society, happened to be passing through Hiroshima on his way back to Tokyo from the front, and amongst several others my three Japanese friends came to the port to see me off, bringing with them a basket of beautiful flowers for my Miss Suo, head nurse on board the hospital ship Hakuai Maru, which was to convey us to Dalny, had been appointed as my companion. She could speak English well, and was most kind and helpful during the whole expedition.

Captain Sekine had reserved two cabins for my use, and we had a delightful voyage through the Inland Sea to Shimonoseki, where we went on shore with the Captain and some of the ship's officers. There is a legend that in ancient times two Daimios fought a battle in the sea, and that ever since the crabs have a likeness of a warrior on their shells. It is a curious coincidence that these crabs are found in this particular place only, and I selected some dried specimens, on which a face is plainly discernible.

There was a heavy fog when we passed through the straits, which are one mile in length, and Captain Sekine offered to change my cabin if the hoot of the siren should disturb me at night; but I preferred remaining in the comfortable quarters he had provided.

The Korean coast is dull and ugly, and after passing many bare and desolate-looking islands we arrived at Tairen (Dalny) at 4 P.M. on May 1. It is a long straggling town, and was still full of wrecked buildings, relics of the time when about two-thirds of the town

were burnt by the Russians and Chinese in May 1904. There was very little vegetation, and it was crowded with squalid Chinese dwellings.

The hospital arrangements were excellent, and in time of pressure 7000 patients could be accommodated, -2000 in the main hospital, which was formerly used by the Russian Government offices, and 2500 in each of the two divisions, one of which had been barracks, and the other offices for engineering, warmaps, &c. In addition, the Greek Church was used for sixty-eight wounded officers. It was strange to see rows of beds in the chancel, a carved wooden screen surmounted by a cross dividing it from the nave. The Russians had been making roads, but they were left quite unfinished, so the approaches to the hospitals were very rough and full of deep ruts.

At the main hospital two small build-

ings had been set apart for the Japanese as temples for their dead-one for officers and another for privates. Candles were always kept burning in front of the altar, and the usual offerings to the spirits, of fruit, rice, biscuits, &c., were placed on a small table in front. A white sheet hung at the back of the altar, behind which the corpse was laid for thirty-six hours; then it was cremated in a place some little distance off, after which the ashes were returned to the relations, who had them buried in the temple grounds. A board was hung near the entrance, on which it was requested that doctors and orderlies should respect the dead as much as the living, renew the offerings daily, and pray for the spirits of the departed. The worship appeared to be a mixture of Buddhism and Shintoism, and it was very impressive to see the care and thought bestowed on the dead soldiers.

Tairen was practically a receiving station for patients from the front, who were brought there in trains. They remained at the hospital till there was accommodation on the hospital ships, into which they were drafted as quickly as possible, and conveyed to Hiroshima or Kokura. They had no beds, but mattresses and blankets on the floor. which was covered with Chinese mats, easily removed when the floors needed scrubbing. Some of the wards were very long, one containing 140 beds. As a precaution against kakke, 30 per cent of barley was mixed with the rice, and the whole well boiled.

We remained two days at Tairen, and then left for Port Arthur, a distance of about forty miles, passing the battlefields of Nanshan and Kinchau on the way. The whole country is dreary and stony, with only a few stunted trees here and there, and small bushes not large enough to afford any shelter. We passed many remains of trenches and barbed-wire entanglements.

Colonel Sato (head of the staff), Dr Ariga (legal adviser), Dr Hoshino (head surgeon), and other officials met us at the station, where a barouche with two fine Russian horses was waiting, and we drove to a house formerly used by a Russian general, which had been prepared for our reception. He had evidently not been able to remove all his belongings, for it was very luxurious, and the drawing-room contained two grand pianos, cosy arm-chairs, and palms in profusion. Two Japanese servants had been appointed to attend on us.

General Ijichi, the distinguished commander of the fortress, came over shortly afterwards and invited us to tiffin. He talks English and French, and is one



of the most courtly amongst the many Japanese officers I have met. He told me that his aide-de-camp and the Government interpreter were to look after us, and he placed one of his carriages at our disposal.

After a very pleasant and informal meal, our first expedition was to the Russian hospital. Our coachman was a Chinese, and he tucked his pigtail into his pocket out of the way, and made his powerful black horses canter up the hills at a great pace. There were only a few patients in the hospital, as all the Russians were preparing to leave very shortly. Amongst them were forty-two demented men, some with acute mania, and others with melancholia. They were being constantly watched, in rooms containing four to six. Several of them had a strange, hunted look, and others cowered in the corners, hiding their

faces in their blankets and taking furtive glances at their visitors.

General Balaschoff and Dr Tardent, who received us, gave us some particulars about the hospital. It was built only two years ago, and although 500 patients were accommodated at the time of the siege, it was still in an unfinished state. Plans had been drawn out for an adjoining church, and for a handsome approach. The structure is finely proportioned, and was originally intended as a training school for nurses, with accommodation for 100 patients. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Sister Damajiroff brought us into her room for tea, which was full of flowers in pots, grown in two glasshouses belonging to the hospital, and there were many coloured Easter eggs on the table. Her dress was grey linen, embroidered in front with a red cross; and her cap was in the shape of a large hand-

kerchief, covering the hair behind, and tied in a bow under the chin.

The wards were bright and pretty. with many hanging Chinese lanterns and various coloured blankets. They had been made specially gay for Easter, and a great many ikons and sacred pictures were hanging on the walls. The sister spoke of the great sufferings of the wounded after the fall of Port Arthur. when 18,000 had to be provided for. Dr Hoshino spent many days searching for them in private houses, and often found them uncared for and nearly starving. for food was scarce, and no medical comforts could be obtained. Afterwards we visited the Japanese hospital, which was arranged much the same as in other places, but only a few patients were still remaining.

The next day, under the kind escort of Dr Ariga, we drove to the forts of East Kee Kwan Shan, Yoshikata, and the famous Urlungshan, which was the last one taken by the Japanese, on December 30. Pictures and descriptions can give but little idea of the stupendous work of the assaults or of the labour of the sappers, who usually worked after dark, often gaining only two or three metres in one night. Urlungshan alone took four months to undermine. The places were pointed out to us where the terrible hand-to-hand fights had taken place, as well as the positions of the great Russian guns, fragments of which strewed the ground.

Golden Hill and 203-Metre Hill could be seen through the mist, and in front there was a long barren plain, which is covered in summer with the high-growing millet that added so much to the difficulties of the advance. It seemed strange to be standing on the brow of

the hills which only a few months previously had been the scenes of such awful carnage, when the Japanese stormed them time after time through a rain of bullets, steadily advancing under the shelter of the accurate fire of the artillery. The Chinese said, "The Japanese shells seem to have eyes." and there mounds and crosses marked the Russian burial-places, but there were no remains of dead horses and oxen lying about, and no fragments of clothing, paper, food, &c., as I had seen at Paardeberg. Immediately after the capitulation the Japanese appointed a commission with three divisions,—one to assort and bury the dead, one to destroy unexploded mines, and one to clear the forts of all rubbish. Lieut. Fujita, who was the officer appointed to deal with the dead at Urlungshan, had 160 Japanese soldiers and 1000 Chinese labourers under him.

There were 973 corpses in that fort alone. The Japanese were cremated, and the Russians buried, according to their usual custom. In one corner he found eighty-two Russians, who had been killed instantaneously while they were trying to explode part of the fort with dynamite before retiring.

The Chinese gave a great deal of trouble by constantly running away on account of the terrible smell. At the time of capitulation they rifled many houses in the town, even breaking up good furniture so as to carry it away and hide it more easily, intending to produce it for sale at a future time. I heard that the Japanese intended searching their houses for loot as soon as they could spare the time to do so. Many of the Chinese searched the pockets of dead soldiers on the heights and in the trenches, removing as much of their

clothing as they could. General Ijichi sent nearly a regiment for the protection of property, and all valuables, money, letters, and papers, both Japanese and Russian, found on the bodies were taken to headquarters, packed, and returned when possible to relations. Only three weeks before this time five Chinese had been caught digging up graves in order to get at clothing, and they were sentenced to ninety days' imprisonment and a fine of thirty yen. The Chinese say, "Russians give plenty stick plenty money, but Japanese no stick no money."

Captain Yasutake invited us to his house for tiffin, where there was a fine Russian mastiff named Kastano, which he had adopted. He was a magnificent dog, and did not seem to mind a change of masters. General Ijichi had taken over no less than five dogs of various breeds, as well as several fine

horses, and seemed very fond of his foreign pets.

General Balaschoff dropped into tea at five o'clock, and although he seemed in fairly good spirits I do not think that he had been in the house since our predecessor, General Berloi, had left, for he looked sadly round the room, and on noticing the pianos said, "My friend was very fond of music." Later we met him, as well as Dr Tardent and Sister Damajiroff, at dinner with General Ijichi, and also several Japanese officers, all of whom wore their medals and decorations. The conversation at table was entirely in French. I was rather surprised to find that Dr Tardent, who had a fund of good spirits and was a most amusing man, could even joke about the siege. He said to me, "When the big shells came rushing with the sound of thunder into the town, we called them the Japan-

ese visiting-cards"; and he also told me that "Roast donkey makes an excellent dish, a young one tasting like veal, but old ones are very tough!" The General's house also had been occupied by a Russian, and contained many works of Japanese art which the owner had collected. Amongst them were fine specimens of cloisonne and two beautifully embroidered screens. The dinner was carried out in strict European style, and the Japanese with their usual tact did their utmost to make the evening pass pleasantly for their foreign guests.

I was much perturbed at receiving a telegram from Tairen to say that the hospital ship was ready to start the next day; but General Ijichi kindly arranged that it should be delayed for two days, and that the soldiers should remain in the hospital, adding, "That as I was the first lady to enter Port Arthur after the

siege, he wished me to enjoy my visit, and to see everything of interest."

The following day we left early for 203-Metre Hill, which is situated on the north-west side of the new town, and is perhaps the most celebrated place in the history of the siege. It was taken and retaken six times, the Japanese alone numbering over 25,000 casualties before they succeeded in capturing it. The foot of the hill had been surrounded with trenches, barbed wire, and pointed stakes, and it was protected by the 25-centimetre guns on the heights of Liotishang and Taiyunkan, which poured a deadly fire into the attacking party. The ground was ploughed up, and great stones and rocks overthrown as if there had been an earthquake.

The most desperate engagements took place after November 26, when General Matsumura cleared the ranges and the



fire of Colonel Sato's artillery began to take deadly effect. The troops charged again and again up the slippery slopes with their shifting foothold of stones and shale, and the Japanese generals often went themselves into the firing-Each step was fiercely conlines. tested, and whole regiments were nearly swept away in the face of the terrific fire of the enemy. Hundreds of dead and wounded lay on the mountainside, and many hours elapsed before the latter could be rescued and brought under shelter. The dogged determination of the Japanese carried all before it. Time after time fresh regiments took the place of those that had been destroyed, till at last on November 30 the standard of the Rising Sun floated on the summit amid triumphant shouts of "Banzai!" Surely no Emperor ever had more devoted and loyal troops! I will quote the graphic description by the special correspondent of 'The Times' on the appearance of the hill:—

"The crest had been absolutely smashed to pieces, and one could not even trace the lines of the original defences. Among the confused jumble of rocks, sand - bags, shells, charred timber, broken rifles, boots, uniforms, and soldiers' accoutrements of every description, the dead lay in hundreds, many smashed beyond all recognition or resemblance to human form, so terrible is the effect of modern shell-fire. On the east side of the mountain lay the Russians, on the west the Japanese: the summit was sacred to both. It was freezing during the days of the attacks, and the bodies were perfectly preserved and had bled little: some seemed to have died a natural death, from the ease of their posture and the contented ex-

pression of their faces, but the majority, especially the Japanese, who had been struck down while advancing up a steep slope, had their teeth clenched and a look of fierce resolve written on their faces. The Russians, who for the most part had met death while sitting in their trenches on the summit, bore a pained and even surprised appearance.

"In one place a dozen soldiers were sitting in a square shelter of sand-bags, their rifles stacked against the side, when a big shell, or shells, landed in their midst and killed them all. The defences had been so completely smashed up that they had been temporarily repaired from time to time, and often one would see the body of a soldier taking the place of a sand-bag in these improvised walls. Many of the dead on the mountain had been killed as far back as September; their bodies had remained

unburied, and were in all stages of decay; but what struck me more forcibly than anything else was the manner in which the big shells had smashed everything to a pulp."

The Japanese took 546 guns and 32,000 prisoners. On one side of the narrow road leading to the summit of the hill trenches had been dug and filled with Russian dead, wooden crosses marking the number (usually fifty together), and at short intervals a faint odour was perceptible as we passed along this awful path of death. The heavy morning mist had cleared away, and when we reached the top there was a magnificent view of the old and new towns, of the harbour with the wrecked warships, of Pigeon Bay, famous for its blockade-runners, and of the large range of mountains overlooking the valleys, where thousands of men had perished so valiantly.

On our way back we passed through the new town, which is some distance from the old, and had suffered most injury during the siege. Still, though hundreds had been destroyed, many large buildings remained intact, and others were in an unfinished state, with scaffolding and bricks lying about. The Russians had begun laying out public gardens and a casino, and there was a partly covered bandstand, a melancholy witness of bygone pleasure and gaiety. Banks, offices, a large hospital, and many small ornamental houses as well as villas, were in process of erection. These improvements had only been commenced some five years ago.

About half an hour after our return, one of the officers dropped in to ask if he and a few Christians might come to my room for Bible-reading. As I had a spare evening, we met at seven o'clock

in the library—three officers and one surgeon being amongst the number. Fortunately I had sufficient little books with me to give one to each. They agreed in future to meet amongst themselves once a-week for Bible-reading and prayer.

It was touching to think of this little band of faithful Christians, so far away from their own homes, holding steadfastly to the faith they had accepted, without having had any help or encouragement for many months.

The following afternoon the admiral lent us his launch to visit the sunken battleships. There were five, and the following are particulars of the *Pobieda*:—

Launched February 18, 1899.

Length, 435 feet.

Three sets of engines and 30 boilers.

Tonnage, 12,674.

Speed, 19 knots.

We went on board the *Peresviet* and the armoured cruiser *Bayan* (7800 tons). It was a pitiful sight to see these monsters of the deep lying on their sides battered and destroyed, their great guns, machinery, funnels, &c., twisted and broken like matchwood. They were sunk about thirty-five feet, and the proud golden eagles at the bow were resting on the waters and rising and falling with the swell of the little waves.

We had to be very careful when walking on board, owing to the great holes which had been made by Colonel Sato's artillery, although the chief destruction had been caused by the Russians, who blew up the ships with dynamite just before the capitulation. There had been accommodation on the *Peresviet* for about 800 sailors, and the iron supports for their hammocks were still discernible, as well as the remains

of their lockers. The work of raising the ships had not yet been commenced, and it seemed as though it would be almost a superhuman task.

The launch took us in the afternoon to the mouth of the harbour, and we steamed quite close to the blockading vessels, and afterwards alongside the torpedo-boat destroyer on which Captain Hirose met his glorious death. His name will always be remembered amongst his countrymen as an example of dauntless courage combined with the deepest tenderness. It is said that when he saw the war approaching he refused to marry, because he did not wish to leave a widow to mourn his loss. There seems to have been a rare attachment between him and the sailor Sugino, for while the destroyer was filling with water, he returned three times to search for him; and a thrill of pride as well as

regret passed through the nation when the news came that the gallant Hirose had been blown to pieces by one of the enemy's shells, and that his remains had been scattered to the winds of heaven.

After his death his elder brother wrote to one of his relations: "My beloved younger brother was chosen to blockade Port Arthur on the 27th March. He did his best and was killed. How deeply the spirits of our ancestors must rejoice that such a brave one has brought glory to our family."

A visit to Golden Fort was also included in our long day's programme. It was considered quite impregnable, and had only been slightly damaged when it surrendered to the Japanese. We had a long climb to the top, but it was well worth the trouble, for we were shown the way in which the guns were

worked and the enormous thickness of the walls. The view over the sea was very fine, and the position most commanding. Having sent the carriage back from the foot of the hill, we walked to our house, and on my way I suggested a short cut down the hill; but Lieutenant Nishikawa entreated me to go by the winding road, saying, "I am responsible for your safety, and should get into trouble if any accident happened to the General's honourable guest." He had evidently never seen English ladies scaling hedges and ditches when otter-hunting. We arrived tired and hungry after the long day's expedition, but had the satisfaction of knowing that everything of interest had been shown and explained to us.

Our last morning, May 7, was spent in leaving cards or seeing the officials who had taken so much trouble to

and as it was rain in the porch till ti but although I m a smile and dozo to be cajoled into and, much to my a set and determine barred the way wit a few moments the ling out, with many having been kept wa He and a large n friends came to see us and I was very sorry so full of historical int only third-class carria

and we shared one ---

lously clean. It was a strange contrast, after our luxurious quarters, to be sitting on a narrow dusty little board, and I could not help smiling at the sudden descent from living en princesse to a dirty third-class carriage.

The hospital ship Kosai Maru was ready to start, and a carriage was waiting at the station to drive us to the place of embarkation, where Captain Honma gave us a hearty greeting. There were 199 patients on board, but very few serious cases. The Kosai Maru is built exactly like her twin sister, the Hakuai Maru ("Benevolence"), both being the property of the Red Cross Society. In time of peace they are rented to the Nippon Yusen Kaishi Company (which possesses seventy-eight steamers), but are not allowed to go long voyages, in case they should be required for service. According to the

in at the sh as hospital sh on such a pr days are suffici alterations. T go farther than Vladivostock, s easy reach. Th in 1899 by L Scotland, and h tonnage of 2500 these, twenty hos between Tairen calculated that o 10,000 patients c weekly. The Kosai Ma:

male nurses, thirty-three women nurses, two secretaries, one pharmaceutist with two assistants, one barber, one washman, and three cooks. There were three kitchens on board-one for patients, one for ship's officers, and one for sailors. Patients were allowed to walk about the decks, but the smoke-room was reserved for officers, as well as a small saloon which contained a piano. The ship's officers included the captain, three mates, a purser and two assistants, a chief engineer and three assistants, firemen, one carpenter, one lampman, three cooks, three waiters, and fifty-eight sailors. Each boat could carry 250 patients, but when they were quite full the firstclass saloon had to be used for beds, accommodating about 60, which were laid on the floor and kept in position by boards. The first-class cabins, which had three berths in each, could accom-

muongst the pr The second-cl a smaller room The greater pa was reserved for contained an ope for surgical dres X-ray room, a fection, a room 1 a small mortuary deck, appointed for reserved for genof high rank. W on board their and each man re shirt, slippers, and was packed up i

tha 1-.. 10

stockings, besides a small bundle with their own belongings. The meals were as follows:—

Breakfast, 6.30: Two eggs, vegetables, occasionally salt fish.

Dinner, 11.30: Fish, potatoes, vegetables, and pickles.

Supper, 4.30: Beef, vegetables, and pickles.

Rice was served at every meal, and weak tea could be had at any time in the day. The only difference made for the officers was the addition of bean-soup at every meal. Hot milk was given out in the same way as in the hospitals on shore, sixty cans a - day being consumed when there was the full number of patients on board. The brand used was the Gail Borden Eagle.

As most of the patients were only slightly wounded, the greater number of them amused themselves with games, and

seemed much interested in halma, which I found they could play on their own checkered boards. The time passed very quickly, as the voyage only takes three days, and on the last evening some of the ship's officers had an entertainment for the men, which took the form of story-telling, and not of a concert, as would have been usual amongst Europeans. The men seemed thoroughly to enjoy it, and sat on the floor for more than two hours while one story after another was recounted. I asked what they were about, and was told that one was the old old story of the forty-seven Ronins, of which the Japanese never seem to tire. My readers may like to have a brief sketch of it.

One of the lords of a province, named Asano, who was a great warrior, was appointed to receive an envoy of the Shogun, and he consulted with another nobleman called Kira as to the necessary etiquette to be observed on the occasion. Kira treated him with contempt, and bade him fasten on his sandals, upon which Asano struck him in the face, and a violent quarrel ensued in the palace. Apparently Asano was considered to blame, for he was ordered to perform harakiri the same evening. His followers became Ronins or wanderers, and vowed to take vengeance on Kira before they dispersed about the country. One day forty-seven of the principal men met together, and forcing an entrance into the house of Kira bade him in his turn commit harakiri, which, hoping that he might be rescued, he refused to do. The Ronins therefore slew him then and there, and cutting off his head carried it in triumph to the grave of Asano, upon which they laid it. Then, knowing that sentence

of death would be pronounced upon them, each one committed harakiri in his own house, and their bodies were laid in the temple precincts by the side of their beloved lord and master. The story can be spun out to almost any length, as each Ronin has his own separate history, and children are taught to revere the memory of those brave men who avenged the death of their lord, and, according to the national idea of honour, sacrificed their own lives for the sake of duty and loyalty. The story, first told in simple words to children at their mothers' knees, is listened to with rapt attention all through life.

Just before reaching Moji the sea became very rough, and several of the men were sick. They lay on blankets on the floor of the saloon, and were very sorry for themselves, especially when some of their comrades who en-

joyed the rough sea-breezes came and chaffed them. For a few hours it was very trying for the wounded who could not leave their berths, and we were glad when we had passed the Straits of Shimonoseki and found ourselves once more in calm waters. The Kosai Maru anchored about a mile outside Ugina, where large barges were waiting to convey all the convalescents to a row of wooden bath-houses which had been erected on the beach. They seemed quite delighted at the prospect of their outing, and each man, equipped with a towel, stood in line with his comrades awaiting his turn to disembark. It was a lively scene, and they all chattered and laughed on their way to the baths, and looked very picturesque in their white kimonos, many of them sitting on the edge of the barges with bare legs dangling over the side.

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GOOD-BYES.

THE following day I returned to the main hospital. A great many of our patients had left for Tokyo and other places, and owing to the small number now coming in from the front the wards were only half full, so I spent my mornings again in No. 1 Division, where there was still a great deal to do with surgical dressings.

A small wooden building for insane patients stood apart in the grounds, the windows heavily barred with iron. I visited them one day with a gift of cigarettes, and found them occupying rooms, each holding two or three, and

apparently treated with every kindness and care. Five orderlies accompanied me, as one or two of the cases were dangerous. One man caused some amusement by walking up and down the small passage chattering and laughing incessantly and bowing down to the ground on his knees, quite delighted at having a visitor.

A few days later I received a letter from the Red Cross Society, advising my return to Tokyo on account of the excessive heat then setting in, which is much more exhausting in Southern Japan. The authorities also kindly suggested my visiting Kyoto and Nara on my return journey, and asked me to go back to Shibuya Hospital and help there until I had decided upon my return boat. It was a great wrench to leave a place where I had been so happy, but before the end of May one of the hospitals had

been turned into barracks, and three of our largest wards had been closed. A few bad cases came dropping in, but sometimes days passed without any arrivals, and ten of the hospital ships were lying in harbour awaiting instructions. Great anxiety prevailed everywhere on account of the proximity of the Baltic Fleet. No one knew the whereabouts of Admiral Togo, and I believe every one was fearing that several of the enemy's ships would escape to Vladivostock after a naval battle, and wondering whether the Japanese would succeed in guarding the whole of the Korean coast. But the nation had confidence in their great Admiral, and knew that he had true and loyal men under his command, who would risk everything to save the country from disaster.

I lingered on in Hiroshima for several days, as my kind friends were preparing entertainments before my departure. One afternoon I had tea in a ward at the hospital, which had been prettily decorated with the crossed flags of England and Japan draped across the entrance. Surgeon-General Sato presided, and after tea I thanked the staff for all the kindness and cordiality they had shown me. I spoke in German, as Dr Tanaka could translate it easily and none of the officers knew English.

Just before leaving I was told in confidence, with a request not to make it public, that the naval battle had begun. Next day was the eventful May 29. In the evening I dined with General Manabe at the Club, the Governor and all the leading officials being present, as well as Miss Bosanquet and several of my friends amongst the Japanese ladies. The General placed me on his right hand, and I was very glad to find that

Mr Matsukata was on the other side to act as interpreter. When dinner was about half way through, a telegram was handed to the General, and all present turned towards him, hoping for news of the battle. A smile lit up his face as he rose to his feet and announced the triumphant victory of the Japanese and the complete annihilation of the Russian fleet. It was a stirring scene when all present rose to their feet, and holding up their glasses shouted Banzai! and drank to the health of the Emperor and the victorious Navy. Congratulations were passed on all sides, and I felt when I returned home that I had been at an historical dinner-party.

Rumours of peace, which in the past had often arisen and then died away, seemed now to take more tangible form, and hopes arose that the struggles of Japan might soon be coming to an end.



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GOOD-BYES.

On May 30 the Governor invited me to a garden-party in the lovely grounds of Sentei. About 200 people were present, and all the officials wore frock-coats, high hats, and decorations. I was first conducted to an arbour, where tea and tiny little dishes of raw fish were served. After remaining for about half an hour chatting to all my friends, I was conducted to a sheltered corner overlooking the lake, where coffee and sweetmeats had been prepared. It was a real peep of Japanese hospitality, and I was not prepared for the gay scene which was to follow.

A large enclosure of black-and-white striped canvass hid a portion of the garden from view, and at a given signal the drapery was removed, and a beautiful pavilion which had been specially erected appeared in sight. The pillars were covered with green and a mass of sweetwilliams, and hundreds of coloured lanterns were suspended on the trees. Long tables filled with good things were laid out for a feast. A broad path stretched out for some distance in front, and a bicyclist, who had been engaged from the island of Kiushiu, gave a trick performance, one of the cleverest I had ever seen.

I felt very sad at leaving the people who had been so good to me, especially when I looked at the many tokens of affection piled up in my room, which remind me, now that I am in England, of the warm hearts of my friends at Hiroshima.

The next day, May 31, Mr Misawo, who had been appointed by the Red Cross authorities to travel with me to Kyoto, came to the house and saw to the conveyance of my boxes. Although we left early in the morning, at 6.20, the

Governor, General Manabe, the Mayor, and all the officials were at the station to speed me on my way, as well as several of the doctors and numbers of the nurses with whom I had spent so many happy days. Dear little women, there were tears in their eyes as they clung to my hands, and it was hard to part from them. My three Japanese friends ran to the end of the platform to wave their sayonaras ("good-byes"). My last glimpse was a graceful cluster of pretty women with the long sleeves of their kimonos floating in the wind as they ran alongside of the train, and I wondered whether I should ever look on their sweet faces again. A card was handed to me in the train with the following quaint farewell greeting: "I am bitte to God, that is helthe of my dear Miss Richardson."

The journey to Kyoto took about

Mr Misawo called me to the door, and I found that at all the stations where we stopped, deputations, often headed by the governors of the towns, were waiting with addresses, baskets of flowers, and more gifts. It was a long and tiring day, as we did not arrive at Kobe till 5 P.M., and the greater part of the time I was standing at the window, bowing and thanking the kind people for their warm welcome.

As there was a wait of half an hour, the ladies of the town had prepared tea, and they afterwards showed me two rooms set apart in the station for the care of soldiers on their way from the hospitals at the front to Tokyo and other more distant places. One surgeon and several nurses were in attendance, and the rooms had been fitted up with every surgical necessary, so that bandages

GOOD-BYES.

could be changed and wounds dressed if required.

My Japanese friend, Miss Koba, met me at Osaka, and we travelled on together to Kyoto, where a large party niet us and conducted us to the hoteli-My Inagaki (Government interpreter). who had been appointed to look after us, presented us with guide-books bound in silk, and had arranged a programme of excursions for each day. Kvoto, a beautiful city, was the residence of the Japanese emperors until 1868,—the year when the Shogun's power was abolished, —when the present Emperor removed the capital to Yedo, which then had its name changed to Tokyo.

We visited some of the manufactories in the city,—amongst others, those for silkweaving, cloisonné, china, &c., one of the chief specialities being damascene ware, which is worked in gold wires almost as fine as a hair on a steel foundation, and each article passes through twenty-six processes in the course of manufacture.

The famous temples in Kyoto exceed even those of Nikko in magnificence. The enormous Hongwanji temple, which was twice destroyed by fire, has been restored in great splendour, 1,000,000 yen having recently being expended upon When it was being rebuilt, many women made offerings of their hair in order to form an enormous cable with which to raise the beams into position. Travellers have so often described the beauties of Kyoto that I will not dwell upon them, but pass on to my visit to the Red Cross Society, of which Princess Murakuma, a Buddhist priestess, is the president. She received me at tea in her private room at the headquarters of the Society, and presented me with a basket of lovely arti-

figures under instructor. Th invited me to a four profession on their kotos. see and to do far too quickly, enjoyable days the rapids in a l The scenery was scarlet azaleas ga the overhanging woods. At the Otani, who is h the temples, rece villa overlooking th was spent at N

which are very ancient and covered with lichen and moss, while others have been presented as votive offerings at the present day. The Government has devoted 400,000 yen towards the restoration of the famous temple, 10,000 yen being expended yearly. The governor entertained us at tiffin at the club-house, and he and the mayor presented me with souvenirs of the place. In the afternoon, when we visited some of the smaller temples on foot, we were followed by numbers of tame deer, who put their soft damp noses into our hands to be fed. It was a long but very interesting day, and nothing could exceed the attention which I received both here and at Kyoto.

After five days had elapsed amongst the fascinating surroundings of Kyoto, I left for Tokyo under the escort of Mr Misawo, who had his hands full looking after my numerous packages, which would never have arrived at their destination without his help. Miss Koba returned to her home at Hiroshima, and I took the express to Tokyo, where Marchioness Nabeshima, Baron Senge, and many other friends were awaiting my arrival. I was never allowed to feel lonely during all my journeys; in every place welcomes had been arranged for me with the most thoughtful consideration.

On June 13 I was back in the hospital at Tokyo amongst my old friends; and finding that it was emptying fast, and that very few fresh patients were coming in, I booked my passage for July 15 on board the *Tartar* from Yokohama to Vancouver. The bandaging afternoons had come to an end, and about eighty Japanese ladies had been admitted into the hospital to help with the patients. They came once a-week in parties of

eight to ten, Marchionesses Nabeshima and Oyama taking turns with the others.

The new recreation-room, which had now been finished for some time, was filled with every possible comfort for the privates, even to a billiard-table. A raised dais at one end was reserved for pots of flowers presented by friends in the city. I was appointed to the officers' wards, and made friends with three young lieutenants, all of whom were totally blind. Lieut. Shibanai had been shot through one of his eyes at Mukden, but still continued fighting, when another bullet struck the other eye and destroyed it also. He was only twenty-seven, and an only son, and sometimes he seemed to dread the long years of darkness lying before him. Every day I used to take all three out for a walk in turns, and the first time that Lieut. Mori went out with me he said, "Please take me to see my blind mate in No. 46." Occasionally they would all sit on the same bed, holding each other's hands and laughing quite merrily together. They said to me one day, in their funny English, "We are your large babies." They tried to pass the long weary hours learning to write with the help of a board divided into sections, and a few days later I received the following letter from one of them:—

July 14th, 1905.

MY DEAR MOTHER,—I am to say long good by. I thank very much of the simpathy for Impire and the kindness for us.

Please permit me that I cannot see you at Shinbashi Station. I hope your health.—Your faithfull friend,

Lieut. K. SHIBANAI.

Another sad case was that of Colonel Yamaoka, who was also blind. He had been all through the siege of Port Arthur, where he had distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry, and afterwards went on to Mukden with his regiment. At the beginning of the battle he was shot through both eyes, and left blinded for life.

The summer rains were unusually late, and about the middle of June it often poured for five and six days without a break. The moats were in a very unhealthy condition, for they were being deepened, and in some cases partly filled up, and on account of the sewerage being disturbed, the odours were very bad. I was awakened one night by an earth-quake which lasted about two minutes, and I was rolled about in bed as if I had been at sea. In Southern Japan

At the beg invitations reac and although i to give an acco an opportunity honour shown of my Japanes I went to tiffin he spoke Frenci well. Count N side, however, c guage, so I aire often wondered After tiffi me. pretty garden, w through an inte officials were pres ioness Nabeshima's, and I had tea in a private room with three of the royal princesses, after which we joined the other ladies in the beautiful grounds, and were all photographed.

On July 9 the Empress, who was staying at her seaside palace at Hyama, desired me to attend an audience, and Mr Nakasi (Master of the Court Ceremonies), as well as Mr Masatake Togo, accompanied me. Her Majesty received me in a Japanese room, which was simply decorated, and as before spoke in whispers, which her lady-in-waiting translated. She thanked me for my work, inquired after my family, asked the day of my departure, and wished me a happy voyage. It was a long day's expedition, as the railway journey took two hours each way, but I felt much honoured at being received, as the Empress generally remains in complete retirement in her seaside palace.

On July 10 General Teraouchi, the Minister of War, entertained me at a very stately and ceremonious lunch in a pavilion situated in the beautiful Arsenal Gardens, Sir Claude MacDonald and several Japanese Ministers and Court ladies being present. In the afternoon I was enrolled as honorary member of the Nurses' Association, and as only women were present (with the exception of three or four officials), I gave them an address of about half an hour. At this time the spells of damp heat were very trying, and one seemed to be living in a perpetual steam-bath.

On July 11 Princess Hayashi Fushimi received me at her home. She is very pretty, and was dressed à la Japonaise, in mauve and soft green crepe, with an obi made of dark-blue silk. As she could speak English fairly well, she kept me for about half an hour, and asked many ques-

tions about English country life. Her house is built on the Japanese model, and the furniture is in rather stiff foreign style, but it contained some beautiful specimens of silver, bronze, and gold lacquer. In the afternoon I went to wish my friends at the hospital goodbye, and to thank all the staff for the unfailing kindness and courtesy which they had shown me for so many months. But perhaps the saddest farewell of all was when my blind children held my hands, and would hardly let them go. I was glad they could not see that my eyes were full of tears, for it would have pained them, and it was only when they remained silent with bowed heads that I knew they too were sorrowful at parting. Then for the last time I looked on the hospital which had become very dear to me, and in which I had spent so many happy, peaceful days.

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GOOD-BYES.

Before leaving Japan, the Emperor conferred the Sixth Class Order of the Crown upon me, through the British Minister, with the following words: "For conspicuous services rendered to my sick and wounded soldiers." I felt deeply honoured at this proof of his Majesty's kind appreciation. The Red Cross Society presented me with the Star of the Order of Merit, but I could not help feeling how little I had done to deserve so much honour from these kind and warm-hearted people.

On July 13, early in the afternoon, I had an audience with Princess Kuni, and then went on to Princess Nashimoto, a daughter of Marquis and Marchioness Nabeshima, and one of the most beautiful of all the princesses. She was very sweet and charming, and talked a little French and English, and said "she

hoped I would return some day to Japan with my sons and all the grandchildren."

On July 14 I left Tokyo for Yokohama with Miss Ballard, after having
spent the whole morning in leavetakings and in writing letters of thanks
for the many beautiful gifts which came
in at the last. One was a large silver
bowl from the Red Cross Society,
another—a smaller one—from the
"Ladies' Volunteer Nursing Association,"—both of them most artistic, with
a raised design of iris. One of my
friends wrote in a letter, "Japan is
weeping her good-bye."

Mr Masatake Togo was most kind in devoting the greater part of his time to helping me and looking after the arrangements for my journey, and throughout my stay in Japan he was invariably

and found the Japanese and leading Red Cr of doctors and old friends amo that now the la was broken. B to Yokohama, Kanagawa Ken us, and I found a farewell dinne at 7.30. Wher looked like a s had been bea English and Jaj flowers hung masses of roses

A servant stood behind my chair with a fan in each hand, which made a little welcome air, for the evening was hot and sultry. Half way through the dinner a band stationed in the verandah played the English and Japanese National Anthems, after which the Governor proposed my health, and we were all photographed by flash-light.

The next day many of my old friends came to see me off, and my cabin was full of baskets of flowers. Homeward bound! after nearly eighteen months' absence; and yet, as the boat steamed away, and I watched the receding coast, my heart was sad with the thought that I should probably never return. Sayonara, dear land of the Rising Sun! my earnest desire for you is, that now the clash of arms and the din of battle have ceased, a

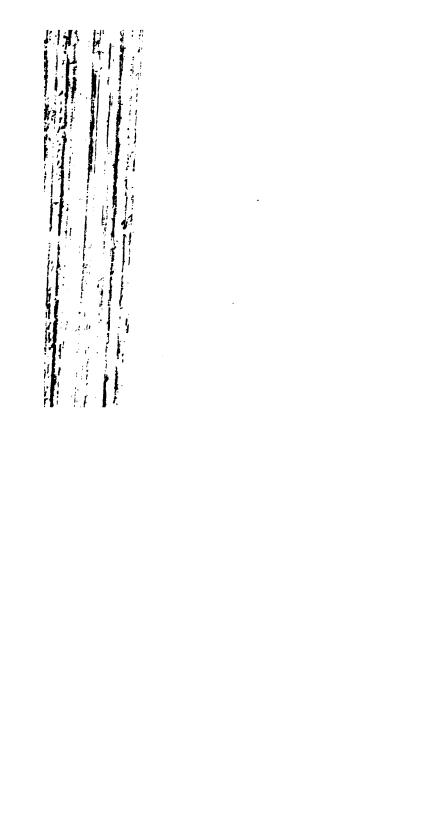
your daughter sweet unselfish pioneers of all the Far East.

THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE OWNER.



JAPANESE NOTE,

WHICH CIRCULATED THROUGH MANCHURIA AND CHINA DURING THE WAR.







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